

Hafa Adai!

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'Our diverse yet united AAPI community has strong voice'

By JON PEREZ
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REPORTER

Gov. Ralph DLG Torres believes a culturally diverse yet united Asian American Pacific Islanders community will have a stronger voice under the administration of President Donald J. Trump. Torres co-chairs the AAPI advisory committee with Gov. Eddie B. Calvo of Guam. **See AAPI on Page 4**



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

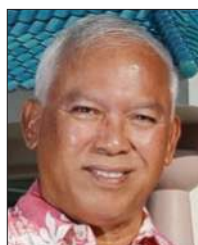
Gov. Ralph DLG Torres delivers the opening remarks in last week's Asian American and Pacific Islanders advisory committee 58th Presidential Inauguration Gala at The Mayflower Hotel in Washington, D.C. Torres and Gov. Eddie B. Calvo of Guam, second right, are co-chairs of the committee.

Ayuyu is mag's exec of the year

TUMON, Guam—Jose C. "Joe" Ayuyu, president and owner of JCA Guam LLC, president and owner of McDonald's Guam and Saipan, RJ Corp., and RJ Guam LLC, was named the 2016 *Guam Business Magazine's* Executive of the Year at the annual gala held Saturday night at the Hyatt Regency Guam.

The gala is a fundraising event for the Guam Chapter of the American Red Cross.

Ayuyu, 64, was born and raised on Saipan. On May 1, 2016, he became the



Ayuyu

president and owner of JCA Guam LLC, which does business as McDonald's of Guam, adding that title to his longtime presidency of JCA Inc., which does business as McDonald's of Saipan. He is now co-franchisee of two locations on Saipan and six on Guam with his wife, Marcia E. Ayuyu, whose title is owner and operator.

His early appointments saw him devote time to the CNMI government, lastly at the Department of Commerce

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902 report includes region's labor demands

By JON PEREZ
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REPORTER

A means to address the labor demands of the Marianas region was one of the recommendations in the final 902 talks report that was submitted to congressional leaders last week. It is hoped that Congress would then take the necessary action on the concerns submitted.

According to the report, which was **See 902 on Page 4**

2015 KHS salutatorian in ICU following car accident

The salutatorian of Kagman High School's Class of 2015 is in serious condition after a pickup truck plowed through a sedan he was riding early last week.

Paolo Reyes, a sophomore in the U.S. Air Force Academy, is currently confined at the emergency care unit of a hospital in Colorado. The accident happened in Colorado Springs in the morning of Jan. 15.

Before the accident, Reyes was active in many activities at the Air Force Academy and has been on

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» Friends urged to donate through crowdfunding site



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

U.S. Air Force Academy C3C Paolo Reyes, second from right, poses with his father Pepito, mother Malou, and sister in this undated photo.

INSIDE



NATION

More than 1 million people rallied at marches in the nation's capital and around the world.

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ASIA

An overnight passenger train derailed in southern India, killing at least 32.

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WORLD

Search intensifies for 23 that remain missing in an Italian avalanche.

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Local

MVA urges businesses to help maintain Paseo

The head of the Commonwealth's tourism arm is encouraging businesses, government agencies, and volunteer groups to take part in the upkeep of Paseo de Marianas, considered the "heart" of Garapan which is the business hub of the

Northern Marianas.

Christopher Concepcion, Marianas Visitors Authority's managing director, also expressed his appreciation to the Corporate Social Responsibility team of Imperial Pacific International, Ltd. following a weeklong clean-

up of the pedestrian mall.

"We encourage other businesses, especially those at the Paseo de Marianas, government agencies, and volunteer groups to contribute their time and effort to keep this special place clean and tidy," Concepcion said.

IPI's CSR group recently sent a team to the Paseo de Marianas and dedicated the week of Jan. 9 to 13 to cleaning Saipan's foremost promenade.

"The [MVA] is very grateful for the support we've received from Imperial Pacific CSR Department, led by executive director Geri C. Dela Cruz," Concepcion said. "[IPI] offered to help clean and water blast the Paseo de Marianas and we happily accepted their offer."

Concepcion noted how encouraging it is to get the support of businesses that step up and support cleanli-

ness and maintenance of the islands' various sites.

"The [Paseo de Marianas] is the heart of Garapan, the main tourist and commercial district," he said. "We thank IPI and the PDM Promoters for assisting the MVA when needed."

The cleanup is part of MVA's Beautification Project, an undertaking that involves private businesses and government agencies as partners.

IPI-CSR's Dela Cruz said they are ready to assist anytime when needed.

"Paseo de Marianas is a

location that is frequented by tourists and locals in our community. It is important that its maintenance is sustained," Dela Cruz said.

She said MVA first approached the IPI-CSR team for the project.

"IPI-CSR's contribution to the maintenance of the Paseo de Marianas is a result of a request from [Concepcion]. I plan to meet with Mr. Concepcion to see how maintenance of this area should continue," she said. "We have to continue identifying ways where we all can pitch in." (*Saipan Tribune*)



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Member FDIC

Aguon steps down as CCA board member



ERWIN ENCINARES

Commonwealth Cancer Association board members, from left to right, Alicia Deleon Guerrero, Malua Peter, Lauri Ogumoro, Roman "Bo" Palacios, Nora Sablan, Bobbi Grizzard, and Cesar Dumatol.

By **ERWIN ENCINARES**
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REPORTER

House of Representatives freshman Rep. Frank Aguon (R-Saipan) has stepped down as resident treasurer and board member of the Commonwealth Cancer Association.

Aguon served as a CCA board member for a year.

He stepped down as board member at the association's board meeting last Jan. 19 to prioritize his membership with the 20th Legislature.

Aguon told *Saipan Tri-*

bune that he would continue to support CCA at "the other end of the spectrum."

"I believe that to continue advocating for CCA, I want to do it up at the Hill [Capital Hill]. I want people [to be aware] that [CCA] is serious when it comes to addressing cancer," said Aguon. "I am and will continue to be a staunch supporter and advocate for cancer survivors and patients."

Aguon said the public should get to know the CCA more. "I just want to let the public know that CCA is a

worth checking out because CCA has an outreach program that is available and anyone that is diagnosed with cancer is free to come over and see what benefits CCA has to offer in relation to their illness," he said.

The board meeting also saw the election of Roman "Bo" Palacios as the new president of CCA.

Other new CCA board members are Alicia Deleon Guerrero, Nora Sablan, and Cesar Dumatol. Malua Peter was also re-elected.

Scheduled power outage on Wednesday

There will be a scheduled power interruption this Wednesday, Jan. 25, 2017, from 5:30am to 11:30am, according to a notice from the Commonwealth Utilities Corp.

The purpose of the power interruption is to de-ener-

gize the primary lines to allow the CUC line crew to safely conduct distribution system upgrade, by replacing the primary lines on Alaihai Avenue in Garapan. This is an effort to strengthen the integrity of the distri-

bution circuit.

Because of the scale of work that will be performed, travelers are encouraged to take alternate routes or to exercise caution when driving through the affected areas. (*CUC*)

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New law outline payment plan for private landowners

By JON PEREZ
jon_perez@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Acting governor Arnold I. Palacios signed last Friday House Bill 19-158 that would compensate private landowners whose properties were taken for public purposes. Former representatives Anthony T. Benavente (Ind-Saipan) authored HB 19-158, which is now Public Law 19-81; it includes settling court judgments.

The CNMI government would allocate a minimum of \$5 million starting next fiscal year. The \$5 million set aside is intended to make partial payments to all claimants.

The Department of Public Lands would tender an offer to pay each landowner that has an outstanding land compensation claim. The amount is prorated in relation to the land compensation owed each claimant.

DPL will be tasked to develop its own formula to pay land compensation claimants. Land claimants with \$50,000 or less in land compensation payments will be paid in full.

Also, claimants who accepted the offer in accordance shall agree to cease the accumulation of interests on any remaining balance of their land compensation claims.

Palacios, however, advised the Legislature to amend some

key provisions of PL 19-91 to make it more workable. "The payment of land compensation should be assigned to the [CNMI] Department of Finance, under the expenditure authority and control of the Secretary of Finance."

"The [DoF] has the necessary resources to administer the program as it is presently in charge of processing the payment of judgments and settlements (including land compensation cases) under PL 19-68."

He said placing the funding program under DPL would require separate appropriation of funds to pay the cost of administering the program. "The designation of DoF would be more cost efficient. ...DoF is the proper department to administer payments of land compensation claims."

Palacios also advised the Legislature to clarify important provisions of PL 19-81, including the amount that will be offered to the land claimants and other judgments. "Moreover, [PL 19-81] creates a question as to what happens to individuals that do not want to opt into the land compensation program."

"The Legislature cannot ignore the obligations to all land compensation claimants by paying only those that agree to accept less than what a court has found they are

owed," said Palacios, who urged the Legislature to address the concerns he raised.

"Address these concerns through future legislation in order to make sure the government efficiently establish a settlement plan for land compensation claims in order to help reduce the financial burden on the CNMI taxpayers."

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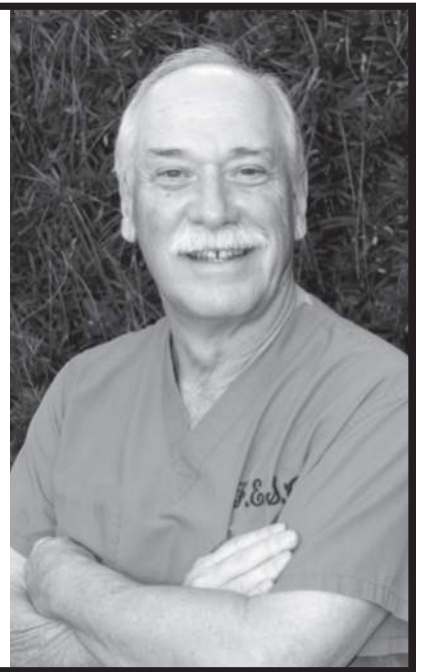
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Family wonders why cops not arresting Tank Beach thief who victimized 3 boys

The family of one of three boys who went fishing at Tank Beach in Kagman and lost two fishing rods and poles worth \$800 to a car-riding thief last November wonders why the police have yet to arrest the suspect, despite knowing his identity.

A family member told *Saipan Tribune* that at least one boy already identified the suspect in a photo line-up shown to them by a police officer.

The family member said one of the boys also took clear photos of the suspect's get-away car, so there's no reason for the police not to identify the thief.

The boy even saw again the suspect recently hanging around at Tank Beach.

"We're wondering why he's not arrested. We're kind of disappointed," said the family member.

When asked about the case yesterday, Department

of Public Safety spokesman Jason Tarkong said he would follow up with DPS Criminal Investigation.

The thief, described as about 60 years old, was with a woman who was carrying an infant, when the incident happened last Nov. 26.

The three boys, ages 14 years old, chased the suspect on their bicycles but he managed to escape aboard a blue sedan.

The boys were fishing and

one of them had left to get more bait from a store. The two other friends left their fishing gear under a bush and left to catch up with their friend. As the three boys later proceeded to the beach, they saw the suspect taking their rods and poles from the bush. The suspect got into a car, prompting the boys to chase him with bicycles. The car-riding suspect later went back to the beach to pick up a woman and her baby. **(Ferdie de la Torre)**

902

From Page 1

backed by both special representatives in the 902 panel—federal and CNMI government—they support some leeway on certain immigration policies as a means to address the region's anticipated workforce shortage.

Recommendation No. 4 states: "The [special representatives] support [United States] Congress' consideration of extending and expanding existing immigration policies or developing new policies to address systemic regional workforce challenges currently being experienced in both Guam and the CNMI."

Former Assistant Secretary for Insular Areas Esther Kia'aina was appointed as the federal government's special

representative in the 902 talks, with Gov. Ralph DLG Torres leading the CNMI side.

Other ranking officials from the U.S. Department of Homeland Security, U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services, U.S. Department of Defense, CNMI departments of Public Land and Labor, and CNMI Legislature were support members of each group.

Both Kia'aina and Torres were united in saying that Congress recognizes the need for the inclusion of three provisions—a regional approach—in the Consolidated Natural Resources Act of 2008 that would focus on the CNMI and Guam.

Exemption from numerical limitations for H-visa category, as stated in Section 214 (g) of the Immigration and Nationality Act of 1965, is the first provision.

The labor shortage is an-

anticipated due to the planned military buildup in Guam that is expected to spill over to the CNMI. The Commonwealth also has its own with the Tinian Divert Airfield project.

"Although the provision helps meet the anticipated labor demands of the planned U.S. military buildup in Guam, the practical need for such an exception is grounded in much more long-term and innate characteristics of the region," as stated on the report.

The second provision is the CNRA recognizing the region's unique circumstances and needs.

"This would allow the CNMI and Guam's governors to request the Department of Homeland Security's secretary of studying the feasibility of establishing additional CNMI- and Guam-only non-immigrant visas.

"[These] are not provided

for under current immigration law. Although this provision excludes employment purposes, it recognizes that the special needs of the region give rise to unique circumstances that may need to be accommodated," according to Recommendation No. 4.

Establishing a CNMI and Guam Visa Waiver Program is the last of the three, a provision that is separate but similar to the rest of mainland U.S. Under the program, visitors can stay for a maximum of 45 days.

"[It] includes other countries that provides the region with significant economic benefit. This is a further reminder of the CNMI's geographic distance from Hawaii and the U.S. continent, its location in the Asia-Pacific region, and its unique needs and challenges given as factors."

AAP

From Page 1

Torres, during his speech in last week's AAPI-hosted 58th Presidential Inauguration Gala, recalled a time when then-presidential candidate Trump called him a week before the CNMI Republican Party primary in March last year.

"The conversation said a lot about the man he is and the President said he will be for all of us. As you know, I serve as governor of the CNMI—a relatively unknown footnote in our American political family—but our President has pledged to give us a seat at the table," Torres told the crowd gathered at The Mayflower Hotel in Washington, D.C. "To have a voice in the discussions that shape our country, to be true members of this family. That's why I supported him and really I believe he will make that same pledge, to give this community a true voice in our political process and take our country to greater heights: Make America great again."

He told the crowd that the AAPI community represents different backgrounds, cultures and heritage that cover the world. "Our voice is

strengthened by the diversity of the AAPI community and together, we can accomplish great things."

He added that the AAPI community—made up of business leaders, doctors, lawyers, engineers, accountants, teachers, small business owners, law enforcement officials, and a significant number serving in the armed forces—"is among the fastest growing minority in the U.S."

"Our families may come from different countries, speak different languages, or like me—as someone from the islands, who has the privilege and honor to be living on the land that belonged to my ancestors. But beyond that, we all come from families with goals of having a better life for ourselves and for our children," said Torres.

"Look around you, this is what diversity looks like. We are the fastest growing minority in the country and we can make such a big impact politically on the issues that matter the most to us, like entrepreneurship."

Torres said the AAPI community should work together to make sure small business owners are rewarded for their hard work. He then spoke of how AAPI-owned businesses

contribute to the U.S. economy, citing statistics provided by the U.S. Census Bureau.

"There are 1.9 million Asian American-owned businesses that generate \$699.4 billion in revenue, employ more than 3.6 million people, and support payrolls totaling \$110.5 billion. We have to ensure that small businesses have easy and affordable access to the capital they need to grow and prosper without necessary regulations. Let's work to protect these folks for making the risky, but rewarding investment for their communities."

He added the investments small businesses make are the lifeblood of the country's economic values. "Asian Pacific American values are Republican values and, in turn, American values. We believe in hard work, family, personal responsibility, and self-reliance. Let's work on strengthening those values by getting more Asian Pacific Americans elected across all levels of government and making sure they are Republicans."

Torres encouraged his colleagues in the AAPI community to exercise their right to vote and also encourage their family and friend to do their share in the democratic pro-

cess. He said Trump, in the last election, received twice the number of votes from the AAPI community in Pennsylvania alone compared to former Massachusetts governor Mitt Romney in 2012.

Pennsylvania is a swing state and played a vital role on the former businessman's victory, along with Nevada, where the AAPI's votes increased for the Republicans. "The shift shows that our party's message is resonating within the AAPI communities in key battleground states and we should work to keep the momentum going," said Torres.

"At the end of the day, we all want what's best for the AAPI community—our community—a vital part of the American family. From Pennsylvania to Nevada, to the CNMI and Guam, let's work together to promote AAPI and American interests in collaboration with our President."

The AAPI worked closely with the campaign team of Trump and Vice President Mike Pence in making sure the concerns and other issues of one of the diverse communities in the United States is heard. They made sure the AAPI community would support the GOP ticket.

AYUYU

From Page 1

and Labor from 1976 to 1981, where he rose to acting director. Ayuyu then joined the private sector, serving as vice president and manager at the Bank of Guam, a career that took him to Guam, Chuuk, and Majuro.

He followed this with the position of vice president and general manager of Hakubotan Saipan Enterprises Inc. until he acquired McDonald's Saipan franchise.

In 2003 Ayuyu also took the step to become president and owner of RJ Guam LLC and RJ Corp. Saipan, now also owning and operating various residential and commercial properties both in Guam and Saipan.

Ayuyu attended high school in Lisbon, North Dakota. He earned a bachelor's degree in economics in 1975 from the University of Hawaii at Manoa.

He serves as chairman of the Bank of Saipan, a position he has held since 2006, is a past president of the Saipan Chamber of Commerce, was co-founder and first president of the Majuro Chamber of Commerce and treasurer

and board director of the Truk Chamber of Commerce. In addition, Ayuyu has chaired the CNMI Tax Force, the CNMI Foreign Investment board, and the Friends of the Beach Pathway. Vice chairmanships include the NMI Governor's Council of Economic Advisors, and the NMI Economic Development Loan Fund. Directorships include the Marianas Visitors Bureau, the CNMI Community Action Agency, and the CNMI Fishing Authority.

Ayuyu has also been named

the Saipan Chamber of Commerce's Business Person of the Year in 1998, the Mariana Islands Visitors Guide Businessperson of the Quarter in 1990, and was a nominee for Executive of the Year in 2012.

Ayuyu is featured in portraiture on the cover of the *Guam Business Magazine* January-February issue, which was released at the gala.

Aside from Ayuyu, the other nominees for the award were Dr. Vincent T. Akimoto, vice president, American Medical Center; Susan M. Biolchino, president, Graphic Center Inc. and All Micronesia Media Inc.; Charles E. Ewart, president, Mobil Oil Guam Inc., Mobil Oil Marianas Inc. and Mobil Oil Micronesia Inc.; Desmond J. Graham, president, Atkins Kroll Inc.; Stevyn J. Radonich, vice president and general manager, Smithbridge Guam Inc.; John W. Scragg, CEO and president, JWS Refrigeration & Air Conditioning Ltd. Guam and JWS Air Conditioning & Refrigeration Ltd. Saipan and CEO of JWS Holdings; and Jeffrey A. Voacolo, chief operations officer, Micronesia Renewable Energy Inc.

Among past Executive of the Year recipients from Saipan are Robert H. Jones of Triple J Enterprises (1983); Marian Aldan-Pierce of DFS Saipan (2000); Juan T. Guerrero of Herman's Modern Bakery Inc. (2003); David M. Sablan of Century Group of Companies (2005); Jerry Tan of TanHoldings Inc. (2009); George Chiu of TanHoldings (2013); Norman T. Tenorio of Joeten Enterprises Inc. and Pacifica Insurance Underwriters Inc. on Saipan (2014); and Jeffrey B. Jones of Triple J Enterprises (2015). **(PR)**

ACCIDENT

From Page 1

the Commandant's List and Dean's List. He plans to be a pilot.

Aside from being a salutarian of the 2015 class of KHS, he is also the recipient of the CNMI Commissioner's Award and earned the gold medal for the President's Education Award Program of Outstanding Academic Award.

Reyes was also KHS' Junior Reserve Officers Training Corps battalion commander for two straight years, earning the rank of colonel and receiving the JROTC Commendation Medal. He was sponsored by Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan (Ind-MP) in his application to the Air Force Academy.

He is the youngest of three children and has an older sister and an older brother who is in the Air Force stationed at Travis AFB. His parents, his brother, and his sister are by his side in Colorado.

Reyes' father, Pepito, works

as an architect at the Department of Public Works, while his mother, Malou, is an accountant at the Commonwealth Utilities Corp.

In a social network message to the *Saipan Tribune* last Friday, Pepito said there still has been no change in his son's condition.

"Paolo is still in ICU and under observation. I can't give you additional details for now but I will inform you of whatever improvements he will have in the coming days," he said.

To help defray the cost of his parents' temporary living costs associated with being away from their home on Saipan for an undetermined length of time, Air Force Academy parents have set up an account in behalf of the Reyes family at the crowdfunding website, www.youcaring.com.

Currently, 522 donors have given nearly \$29,000 to the online fundraising effort. To donate, type <https://www.youcaring.com/paolor-eyes-739508>. **(Mark Rabago)**

Torres vetoes HB 19-173

Just before leaving for Washington, D.C. to attend President Donald Trump's inauguration last week, Gov. Ralph DLG Torres vetoed House Bill 19-173 that would have allowed educational tax credit donations to the Northern Marianas Judiciary Historical Society. Rep. Vinson F. Sablan (Ind-Saipan) introduced the measure.

Torres, in a letter to House Speaker Rafael S. Demapan (R-Saipan) and Senate President Arnold I. Palacios (R-Saipan), advised them to consider if HB 19-173 would achieve its purpose.

"Essentially, it diverts funds directly from the CNMI and back to the taxpayers to donate. In order to address the issue, the Legislature should consider instituting a limitation on the amount of tax eli-

tion of the taxes it is owed."

Torres also raised his concern on the ETC statute that requires the historical society

to maintain tax exempt status.

"The CNMI Division of Revenue and Taxation has indicated that the institution has

not been granted tax exempt status nor has it applied for tax exempt status," said Torres.

He added that organiza-

tions like NMJHS must maintain tax exempt status or it would be subject to local tax. *(Jon Perez)*

Mariano Falig sentencing postponed

The sentencing of former Corrections officer Mariano Q. Falig Jr., which was set last week for his conviction on drug charges, did not push through; instead, it has been postponed to May 31, 2017.

The Office of Adult Probation asked for more time to submit a presentence investigation report.

Associate Judge Joseph N. Camacho ordered the Office of Adult Probation to submit the presentence investigation report on or before May 5, 2017.

Assistant attorney general Chester Hinds appeared for the government. Assistant public defender Cindy Nesbit served as counsel for Falig.

Last Sept. 27, Falig pleaded guilty to illegal possession of crystal methamphetamine or "ice." He also admitted violating the terms and conditions of his probation in connection with his conviction in a 2015 domestic violence case.

Falig faces up to a maximum sentence of five years imprisonment.

According to police, Falig was found in possession of crystal methamphetamine on June 7, 2016 on Saipan.

In July 2015, Superior Court Associate Judge Teresa Kim-Tenorio slapped Falig with a one-year prison term after he pleaded guilty to assault and criminal mischief when he slashed the tire and scratched with a knife the vehicle of his then-pregnant girlfriend and threatened to kill her outside a bar in Garapan in November 2014.

Falig was given 230 days of credit for time served. *(Ferdie de la Torre)*



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2017 KIA SOUL LX retail price \$18,995.00 less 20% downpayment. Financing at 5.4% APR for 60 monthly payments of \$289.56 or \$133.64 per paycheck based on 26 pay periods per year. Total deferred payment \$17,373.60.

PSS stars perform in sellout concert



Members of the MHS Symphonic Wind Band perform at a packed Pedro P. Tenorio Multi-Purpose Center on Friday and Saturday evening.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

The Public School System's musicians and artists staged a two-night sellout production at a packed Pedro P. Tenorio Multi-Purpose Center on Friday and Saturday evening. The 5th PSS Music and Arts Festival highlighted choral renditions, instrumental ensembles, and a musical theater production.

An art exhibit and student booths were also held on Saturday.

According to Board of Education chair MaryLou S. Ada, this was yet another best per-

formance by PSS students.

"It was such an awesome, wonderful event. Every student did really well. Every year it gets better," she said. They "are all winners and they did a great job."

She also acknowledged the parents' continued support. "There are so much talent in our public schools and our Public School System will continue to showcase these talents to the community. And our public school students continue to work hard because there is sup-

port from their parents."

The two-day festival highlighted various group and individual performances. They include the San Vicente Glee Club, Polksai Chamorro Club, Laurence Tubera of Garapan Elementary School, MHS Symphonic Wind Band, MHS Dolphin Pep Band, My Haggan Dream, Kagman High School Music Club, Sengebau winners (Mix), solo violinist of Dandan Middle School, MHS Music Class Jr. Thespians (Mix), and Re-Up Club of Hopwood Middle School.

Ada was joined at the Multi-Purpose Center by BOE vice chair Janice Marie A. Tenorio and Herman Atalig, who is also the board secretary/treasurer.

Community, parental support

Education Commissioner Cynthia Deleon Guerrero had nothing but positive words for the students and their parents.

"The performances were just absolutely amazing. I am very proud to be part of our public school students success," she said. "I give great salute to the parents, the teachers and, of course, the students themselves for sharing their

exceptional talents."

Deleon Guerrero also pointed out how arts and music continue to help student achievement. "Research show that arts and music really help student achievement. There is no doubt about it. Arts and music are something that many of our students are passionate about."

This was Deleon Guerrero's first festival since being appointed education commissioner late last year.

"Just seeing our students perform at this exceptional level is absolutely amazing and I am really happy to be part of it," she said. (*Saipan Tribune*)



From left, Board of Education secretary/treasurer Herman Atalig, Education Commissioner Cynthia Deleon Guerrero, BOE chair MaryLou S. Ada, and BOE vice chair Janice Marie A. Tenorio.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

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Western Union to pay \$184M fine for past AML violations

WASHINGTON, D.C.—The Financial Crimes Enforcement Network, or FinCEN, has assessed a \$184 million civil money penalty against Western Union Financial Services, Inc.

Western Union consented to FinCEN's determination that prior to 2012, it willfully violated the Bank Secrecy Act's anti-money laundering requirements by failing to implement and maintain an effective, risk-based AML program and by failing to file timely suspicious activity reports. FinCEN's penalty is in conjunction with actions by the U.S. Department of Justice and the U.S. Federal Trade Commission.

"This consent agreement with Western Union reflects that company's recognition of past shortcomings and the

damage that can be done when there is a failure of a culture of compliance," said FinCEN acting director Jamal El-Hindi. "Money transmitters, large and small, play a critical role in the movement of legitimate funds around that world, and they also are of vital assistance to FinCEN and law enforcement in thwarting illicit activity. As such, it is imperative that they maintain appropriate safeguards to keep illicit actors from abusing their products, and take to heart that not all business is good business."

Collectively, Western Union businesses comprise a network of approximately 500,000 agent locations in 200 countries and territories worldwide.

U.S. AML rules require Western Union, as a money services business, to have an

effective AML program in place to prevent the company from being used to facilitate money laundering and the financing of terrorism. As part of their AML program, Western Union needed to take reasonable steps to guard against the flow of illicit funds, including through its relationships with foreign agents and outlets. WUFSI violated this requirement by failing to conduct adequate due diligence (such as background checks and on-site reviews) on a number of its new agents and failing to conduct enhanced due diligence on certain Latin America-based agent locations.

Pursuant to the terms of the settlement agreement, FinCEN will deem its penalty fully satisfied by WUFSI's payment to the DOJ pursu-

ant to the forfeiture order of \$586 million for the victims of fraud. WUFSI has also agreed to a number of remedial undertakings including increased scrutiny and periodic report-

ing regarding agent SAR reporting and disclosure of corrective actions taken against agents. FinCEN recognizes and extends its thanks to the many state partners for their

contributions to our investigation and to the Department of Justice and the Federal Trade Commission for their partnership with FinCEN in coordinating this matter. (PR)

Labor official pleased with contractor's swift action

Labor Enforcement Division director Gil M. San Nicolas is pleased with the quick response of Sino Great Wall International Engineering Co., Ltd. in settling its obligation to its workers early this month.

Close to 200 laborers employed by Sino Great Wall, one of the sub-contractors working on Imperial Pacific's multi-million dollar casino hotel, protested after allegedly not getting paid their wages and allowances.

San Nicolas said he and other local labor officials immediately looked into the situation with Sino Great Wall, led by project manager and senior engineer Hou Jianlong, who cooperated with their investigation. He and Jeffrey Camacho, a senior investigator in the division, and other local labor officials investigated the case.

"On the same day we learned about it, we looked into it. [Sino Great Wall officials] cooperated to address our main concern of making sure the employees are paid. We called both parties in and met with them. The bottom line is everyone got paid," San Nicolas told *Saipan Tribune*.

"They [Sino Great Wall officials] immediately came to our office and met with us. Mr. Huo came here voluntarily after Jeff called him up and he came here to explain the situation. We sat down and talked on how to quickly settle the matter. We resolved the issue [and] the workers got paid their wages and allowances."

San Nicolas said that he, Camacho, and another investigator closely monitored the events from the time they met the protesters until they received their wages.

"We're aware of it and they got paid. [Huo] wrote a check for the amount and we monitored the payroll of the remaining employees. And when they received their

money, some of them received cash vouchers."

"They [Sino Great Wall] were very cooperative," San Nicolas added.

He said that Huo told them the workers' salaries were delayed due to the late transmission of the money to their bank. "It was just a delay and that's what they said. Since we learned that there was a protest we monitored the situation and see what's going on. We called Mr. Huo and also informed the United States [Department of] Labor."

"We also made sure that we communicate with U.S. Labor and we know that they are also following the events. Since the beginning we're communicat-

ing with Dean Tenorio of U.S. Labor like we all do with other major issues regarding wages and other issues. We just gave them [U.S. Labor] the same information on what transpired at the meeting as part of our good working relationship with them."

Documents provided by Sino Great Wall to *Saipan Tribune* showed that they paid 185 workers a total of \$1,338,032.03 in salaries and other allowances since July 2016. They paid \$1,240,314.03 in wages and \$86,700 in cash vouchers. All of their workers stayed at Heaven II apartments provided by IPI while Sino Great Wall took care of their meals. (Jon Perez)



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Commonwealth Utilities Corporation
Office of the Executive Director



INVITATION FOR BIDS
CUC-IFB-17-010

SAIPAN SEWER LINE REPLACEMENT PROJECT
(S-14-035)

The Office of the Executive Director for the Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is soliciting competitive sealed bids from qualified firms for the replacement of sewer line in Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

The project consists, in general of the replacement of asbestos cement pipe (ACP) in the area of San Antonio, Chalan Kanoa, and Susupe Village. The work shall be done not to disrupt the daily operation of the sewer discharge. The Project is to replace approximately ± 260 LF of existing 10-inch ACP, ± 2200 LF of existing 8-inch ACP, and ± 250 LF of existing 6-inch ACP, existing sewer manhole rehabilitation, installation of new concrete sewer manhole, 4-inch and 6-inch service lateral connections, installation and monitoring of wastewater temporary by-pass pumping system and road restoration.

This project is funded by a grant from the United States of Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA). The award of this project is contingent upon receipt of the approval for project award from USEPA.

CUC requires the Project to be completed in **300 calendar days** from date of award of contract.

Prospective Bidders must pre-register with the CUC Procurement & Supply Division. The Bid Package may be obtained from the CUC Procurement and Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Saipan, between 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays, upon completion of registration and presentation of a receipt evidencing a non-refundable payment to the CUC Treasury Section, by cash, check or credit card in the amount of \$100.00 (non-refundable) for one IFB package set.

A Pre-Bid Conference followed by a Site Visit is scheduled on **January 12, 2017 at 10:00 AM (ChST)** at the CUC Main Conference Room, 3rd Floor, Room No.17, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building.

One (1) original and Five (5) hard copies must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked **“CUC-IFB-17-010, Saipan Sewer Line Replacement Project”**, to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, **no later than 10:00 AM (ChST) on February 02, 2017**, at which time they will be publicly opened and read aloud. Late submissions and conditional bids will not be considered. Bid shall be submitted on the provided Bid Forms. Bidders are required to complete all Bid Forms. Bidders may supplement the form as appropriate. Bids will be required to be submitted under a condition of irrevocability for a period of 60 days after submission.

All bidders are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the bidders due to lack of information or understanding of the bid requirements in the course of Contractor’s preparation of a bid under the contract.

A Bid Guarantee of fifteen (15%) percent of the total bid price must accompany the bids. The security deposit may be in cash, certified check, cashier’s check, or bid bond executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. A *Payment Bond* of one hundred (100%) percent and a *Performance Bond* of one hundred (100%) percent of the total bid price will be required upon the execution of the contract by the successful bidders. The Payment and Performance bond must be executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. Surety Company must be authorized to do business in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

All insurers’ questions, concerns and qualification shall be handled by the Department of Commerce Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC). The OIC is tasked with regulating and monitoring compliance to the CNMI’s Insurance Code (Title 4, Division 7). Bidders are required to submit a clearance from the OIC certifying their insurer of choice is in compliance with the CNMI’s Insurance Code.

Bidders are required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws. This bid and the ensuing contract shall be executed pursuant to the CUC Procurement Regulations.


All responses to this IFB shall take into account any and all taxes, including excise tax, which will become the obligation of the proponent awarded a contract. Successful proponents will be required to submit a copy of a valid CNMI Business license in compliance with the Contractor’s Registration and Licensing Laws of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, upon award of the contract. The Contractor and all subcontractors will be obligated to pay wage rates not less than the current CNMI minimum wage, prevailing through the period of contract, as indicated in the web page: <https://marianaslabor.net/>. The proponents shall be required to comply with all applicable CNMI and Federal Laws.

All questions or requests for clarification will be entertained only from pre-registered Prospective Bidders and must be submitted in writing no later than **10:00 AM (ChST) on January 17, 2016** to Manny B. Sablan, CUC Purchasing Administrator via email address manny.sablan@cucgov.org with a copy to Birhen Martinez, CUC Water/Wastewater Senior Engineer – via email address birhen.martinez@cucgov.org and Marcela Tenorio, CUC Purchasing Assistant-via email address marcela.tenorio@cucgov.org.


CUC reserves the right to reject any or all bids for any reason and to waive any defects in said bid documents, if in its sole opinion, to do so would be in the best interest of CUC. All bids shall become the property of CUC.

GARY P. CAMACHO
Acting Executive Director

MANNY B. SABLAN
Purchasing Administrator



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PUBLIC NOTICE

This Notice is paid by NMHC with HUD funds.

**COMBINED NOTICE OF FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT
AND INTENT TO REQUEST RELEASE OF FUNDS**

January 23, 2017

Government of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
Office of the Governor
Saipan, MP 96950 Tel: (670) 237-2200 or (670) 234-7689/6866

This notice shall satisfy the above-cited two separate but related procedural notification requirements.

REQUEST FOR RELEASE OF FUNDS

On or after February 8, 2017, the Government of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands will submit a request to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, Honolulu Field Office, for the release of Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Funds under Title 1 of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974 (PL 93-383), as amended, to undertake the following projects and purposes in Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands:

Project/Activity Type	Purpose	Location	Total Project Cost
Construction of the San Vicente Central Park	To construct a park in the San Vicente Village	San Vicente, Saipan	\$475,691.00

FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

The Government of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands has determined that the above-listed projects will have no significant impact on the human environment. Therefore, an Environmental Impact Statement under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA) is not required. Additional project information is contained in the Environmental Review Record (ERR) on file at the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation Central Office in Garapan, Saipan and may be examined or copied during regular work hours, Monday through Friday except CNMI or Austerity Holidays, from 7:30 A.M. to 4:30 P.M.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Any individual, group or agency disagreeing with this determination or wishing to comment on the projects may submit written comments to the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation, P.O. Box 500514, Saipan, MP 96950 or direct delivery to the central office in Garapan, Saipan. All comments received by February 8, 2017, will be considered by the Government of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands prior to authorizing submission of a request for release of funds. Commentors should specify which part of this Notice they are addressing.

RELEASE OF FUNDS

The Government of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands certifies to the U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, HUD Honolulu Field Office that the Government of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands and Governor Ralph DLG. Torres consent to accept the jurisdiction of the Federal Courts if an action is brought to enforce responsibilities in relation to the environmental review process, and that these responsibilities have been satisfied. The U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development HUD Honolulu Field Office acceptance of the certification satisfies its responsibilities under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 and related laws and authorities, and allows the Government of the Northern Mariana Islands to use Program Funds.

OBJECTION TO RELEASE OF FUNDS

The U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development HUD Honolulu Field Office will accept objections to its release of funds and the Government of the Northern Mariana Islands certification for a period of fifteen days following anticipated submission date or its actual receipt of the request (whichever is later) only if it is one of the following bases: (a) the certification was not executed by the Certifying Officer of the Government of the Northern Mariana Islands; (b) the Government of the Northern Mariana Islands has omitted a step or failed to make a decision or finding required by the U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development regulations at 24 CFR Part 58; (c) the grant recipient has incurred cost not authorized by 24 CFR Part 58 before approval of the release of funds by the U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development; or (d) another Federal agency acting pursuant to 40 CFR Part 1504 has submitted a written finding that the project is unsatisfactory from the standpoint of environmental quality. Objections must be prepared and submitted in accordance with the required procedures of 24 CFR Part 58 and shall be addressed to the U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development Honolulu Field Office, 1132 Bishop Street, Suite 1400, Honolulu, Hawaii, 96813. Potential objectors should contact the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development to verify the actual last day of the objection period.

Ralph DLG. Torres
Governor

DOJ settles claim vs JET Holding

The U.S. Justice Department reached a settlement last week to resolve the department’s claims that J.E.T. Holding Co. Inc. discriminated against U.S. citizens and certain work-authorized immigrants in violation of the Immigration and Nationality Act.

J.E.T. Holding is a company based in Saipan and operates a restaurant, a bowling alley, and an amusement center.

The department’s investigation found evidence that between January 2016 and June 2016, J.E.T. engaged in a pattern or practice of refusing to hire U.S. citizens and other work-authorized individuals, including lawful permanent residents, for several dishwasher positions.

The department concluded that J.E.T. failed to consider qualified U.S. citizen applicants and others based on their citizenship or immigration status because of a preference for hiring non-immigrant foreign workers with CW-1 visas.

The CW-1 visa grants temporary work authorization to its beneficiaries and is only available in the CNMI. CNMI employers may apply to the CNMI Department of Labor for permission to hire workers under the CW-1 visa program after advertising vacant positions and certifying that no qualified local workers are available for hire.

Under the terms of the settlement, J.E.T. will pay a civil penalty of \$12,000, establish a back pay fund of \$40,000 to compensate qualified claimants for any lost wages through a claims process, train its workers on the anti-discrimination provision of the INA and be subject to department monitoring.

“This settlement reflects the Justice Department’s firm commitment to ensuring that we protect the rights of workers in all U.S. jurisdictions,” said principal deputy assistant attorney general Vanita Gupta, head of the Civil Rights Division. “We commend J.E.T. for its cooperation in achieving this settlement and for taking steps to ensure that workers don’t face discriminatory barriers in the hiring process.”

“The U.S. Attorney’s Office is committed to protecting the civil rights of all workers and ensuring that employers are not discriminating against individuals based on their citizenship or national origin or immigration status, in violation of the anti-discrimination provision of the INA,” said U.S. Attorney Alicia A.G. Limtiaco of the Districts of Guam and the Northern Mariana Islands. “We all have the right to be treated equally and fairly.”

The U.S. Attorney’s Office in the CNMI coordinated with the Justice Department’s Civil Rights Division in its investigative efforts, and will provide assistance during the back pay claims process.

Potential back pay claimants include those who applied for a dishwasher position with J.E.T. between Dec. 13, 2015, and May 14, 2016. Individuals who believe they are potential claimants should contact joann.sazama@usdoj.gov or 202-307-3092, or Jessica.f.cruz@usdoj.gov or 671-479-4139.

The Office of Special Counsel for Immigration-Related Unfair Employment Practices is responsible for enforcing the anti-discrimination provision of the INA. The law prohibits, among other things, citizenship, immigration status and national origin discrimination in hiring, firing or recruitment or referral for a fee; unfair documentary practices in employment eligibility verification; retaliation and intimidation.

To learn more about the protections against employment discrimination under immigration laws, call OSC’s worker hotline at 1-800-255-7688 (1-800-237-2515, TTY for hearing impaired); call OSC’s employer hotline at 1-800-255-8155 (1-800-237-2515, TTY for hearing impaired); sign up for a free webinar at www.justice.gov/crt/about/osc/webinars.php; email oscrcrt@usdoj.gov; or visit OSC’s website at www.justice.gov/crt/about/osc.

Applicants or employees who believe they were subjected to: different documentary requirements based on their citizenship status, immigration status or national origin; or discrimination based on their citizenship status, immigration status or national origin in hiring, firing or recruitment or referral, should contact the worker hotline above for assistance. **(PR)**



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DISCONNECTION NOTICE**

IT&E would like to remind its **RESIDENTIAL, GOVERNMENT & BUSINESS** customers that current billing of accounts are due on or before **Tuesday, January 24, 2017**. Payments not received by close of business on **Jan. 24** will result in temporary suspension of all telephone services after 6:00PM on that day.

To prevent temporary suspension, customers are hereby advised to kindly pay their bills on or before **Tuesday, January 24, 2017**. Disputed billings must be brought to IT&E’s attention in person or in writing by **Tuesday, January 24**. Customers must pay any current amount due, to avoid disconnection.

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Opinion

Hafa Adai! Saipan Tribune

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EDITORIAL

‘This is your country’: Trump and America’s economy

Most of those who liked Donald Trump’s inaugural speech Friday probably voted for him. And many others, if they bothered to pay attention, surely came away feeling sour. That’s not a reflection of President Trump as an especially divisive figure. That’s politics in an especially divided nation. All of us recall similar fissures after the inaugurations of Presidents George W. Bush in 2000 and Barack Obama in 2008.

Trump’s address, delivered from a teleprompter, was authentic to his populist, outsider candidacy. He repeated his campaign promise to “make America great again” and said in more than one way that the watch phrase of his presidency will be “America first.”

This may be remembered as the “forgotten man” speech for the attention Trump devoted to Americans who are struggling economically. Many of them translated their own frustration—and their sense of feeling ignored by career politicians—into support for Trump. They gave him the presidency. His inaugural speech confirmed that he intends to double down on this priority.

How will Trump translate that commitment into policy? Here was his most specific reference in a speech that was, of course, not intended to lay out a specific agenda: “Every decision on trade, on taxes, on immigration, on foreign affairs will be made to benefit American workers and American families,” he said. “We must protect our borders from the ravages of other countries making our products, stealing our companies and destroying our jobs.”

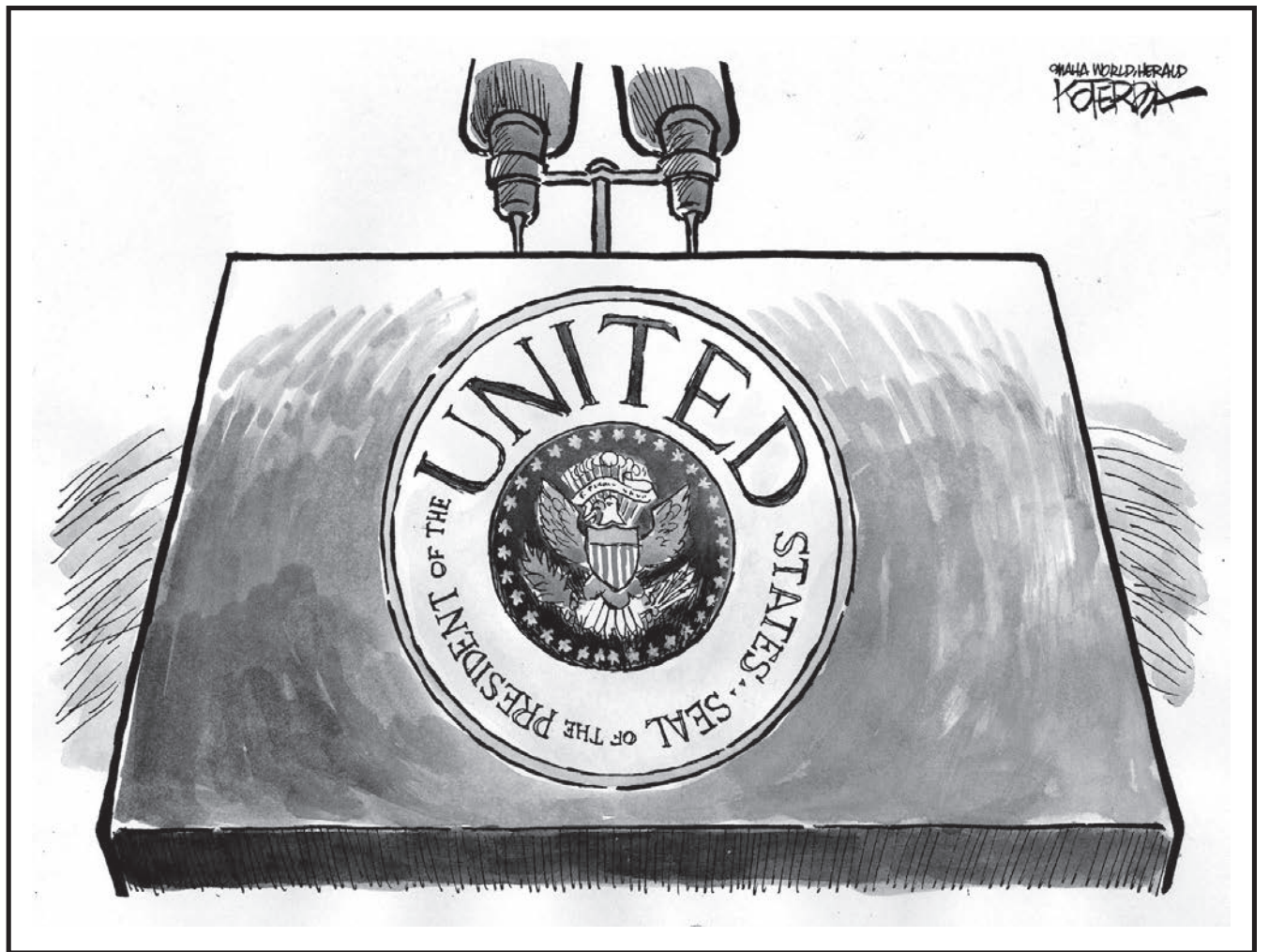
Those are tough words, exaggerated for effect but also off the mark in targeting America’s relationship with the rest of the world as the primary source of domestic economic woes. Is America suffering the “ravages” of other countries in the global economy? No. America’s prosperity and future promise are directly tied to the ability to sell our goods and grain to the world, and purchase the best the world has to offer. He’s wrong on trade, and we expect that he will come around to the idea that pushing for “fair trade” is smart while pulling back on trade is self-defeating.

Yet the best of what Trump said, and the best of what he has to offer the country, was contained in that same passage: his energetic focus on building the economy. He’s right to say that America is not firing on enough cylinders. Nearly eight years after the end of the Great Recession in June 2009, growth remains slow. Too many Americans who want to work can’t find decent jobs or have fled the workforce. The answer to those challenges is to look for ways to unleash America’s potential—through tax reform, reduced regulation and other means. Cheerleading has its place too.

“We will get the job done,” Trump said.

We hope he does.

(c) 2017 Chicago Tribune



Trump promises big change, picks small fights

By JULIE PACE
AP WHITE HOUSE CORRESPONDENT

WASHINGTON (AP)—President Donald Trump won the White House promising big changes to the nation’s economy, health care system and foreign policy.

He spent his first full day in office picking small fights.

Trump turned what was intended to be a bridge-building visit to the CIA on Saturday into a media-bashing session centered on what he saw as low-ball reports about the crowd size on Inauguration Day. He berated a magazine journalist by name for an inaccurate report about Oval Office decor that had been quickly corrected. Then, he dispatched his press secretary, Sean Spicer, to the White House briefing room to reinforce the message in an angry tirade that included false—and easy to fact-check—statements.

The day left no doubt that Trump will govern, at least for now, as he campaigned: fixating on seemingly minor issues, letting no perceived slight slip by unchallenged, and, sometimes, creating his own set of facts.

Indeed, some of Trump’s remarks at CIA headquarters, with agency brass looking on, might well have come at one of his raucous campaign rallies. But this time, it was a memorial to fallen CIA agents that served as the backdrop for Trump’s declaration that journalists are “the most dishonest human beings on Earth.”

“I have a running war with the media,” Trump said, looking out at an audience of men and women who have played a direct role in the nation’s wars against terrorism.

Even with Trump’s track record, it was a remarkable scene. High-level CIA leaders stood silently as the commander in chief unleashed his off-topic attacks, though other agency employees who had volunteered to attend the event cheered the president on.

Trump has long been easily sidetracked by relatively insignificant issues, particularly those that threaten to chip away at his carefully cultivated image as the ultimate winner. He repeatedly inflated his crowd counts during the campaign, even though he was easily drawing bigger audiences than his rivals. When during a general election debate Democrat Hillary Clinton raised old comments Trump had made about a beauty queen’s weight, he took the bait and spent several days defending what he had said two decades earlier.

It seemed to be no coincidence that Trump’s fixation on the inaugural crowd came on a day when throngs of women flocked to Washington for a protest against his presidency. The march appeared to draw larger crowds than the one that gathered on the

National Mall to watch Trump be sworn in as the 45th president of the United States.

The women’s march was widely covered on cable news, which Trump watches regularly. His motorcade routes Saturday also gave him an up-close look at the protesters, including some who lined the street and shouted at the president as he pulled back into the White House.

In theory, the pace and pressures of the presidency should leave Trump with less capacity to respond to every irritation. He now leads the world’s largest economy and most powerful military. His loyal supporters have pinned their hopes for change in Washington squarely on him, believing that his unconventional background and style will allow him to succeed where other politicians have failed.

But Trump appears to have concluded that his ability to do so hinges in part on tearing down the national media, an institution whose attention he simultaneously craves. While most presidents view the day’s headlines as a sideshow, Trump sees them as a daily barometer of his standing.

He’s benefited from his supporters’ deep distrust of journalists and the reality that most media pundits predicted his defeat in the campaign—never mind the fact that many Republicans, including some now serving in senior White House roles, did as well. His active presence on Twitter and other social media sites has given him the ability to command attention for his own version of events, which is often replicated by pro-Trump outlets.

Now Trump has all the trappings of the presidency to promote his version of events as well. When Spicer stepped into the White House briefing room Saturday evening, the pack of ever-ready journalists that work out of the West Wing was at the ready to chronicle his remarks.

Spicer, a Washington veteran who served in former President George W. Bush’s administration, was nearly shouting as he read off a script. Like his boss, he played loose with the facts, including his claim that white “floor coverings” to protect the grass on the National Mall were used for the first time and drew attention to any empty space. The same coverings were used four years ago.

Ari Fleischer, who stood at the same podium as Bush’s first press secretary, wrote on Twitter: “This is called a statement you are told to make by the President. And you know the President is watching.”

Julie Pace has covered the White House and politics for The Associated Press since 2007. Follow her on Twitter at <http://twitter.com/jpaceDC>

EDITORIAL POLICY

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Trump and the civil rights movement of our time

By **RICHARD PARKER**
THE DALLAS MORNING NEWS

As the Trump era unfolds, it will be judged in many ways, but none more so than by how it, and by extension America, treats its immigrants. Their cause—our cause, actually—is the civil rights movement of our time.

People born abroad now constitute 43 million residents of the 50 states. Where previous presidents measured us on how we treated our poor, our impoverished, or our elderly, we are now at a similar junction with our neighbors from Latin America, Asia and Africa. The nation's fortunes will rise and fall on their shoulders. This is how Donald Trump may be measured. Certainly it will be how we are measured.

Trump enters the White House on a weird, dissonant note, like a key out of tune on the piano of history. He won, fair and square, sure. But he's chosen to mire himself in one fight after another, on the side of the Russians and against, well, nearly everybody, turning the first months of his term into a foreign policy battle, though he claimed he was all about jobs, first.

Beyond the speeches, the parade and the black-tie galas, there is a real America out there. And it is—in part—composed of an aging, white suburban and rural population. But let's not get carried away. America's future has already arrived. The 43 million immigrants—documented and otherwise—are here. Most are not going home. And Trump is already slowly backing away from his promise of a deportation force, much like the idea of Mexico paying for a wall.

Put this into perspective: Foreign-born residents of our shores now make up nearly one in 10 of the nation's population. More than 7 million of them live in Texas, second only to California. These figures are approaching historic highs not seen since the mid-1880s and 1920s, which brought Jews, Italians and central Europeans to the U.S. During most of that period, immigrants arrived to utterly open shores. Contrary to popular conception, there was no orderly arrival. Many just got off a boat and walked ashore.

Indeed, my own family seems to have gotten its start precisely this way, with an Englishman who arrived in this time in St. Louis out of nowhere and an Irish woman whose family landed in the U.S., then entered Canada, then Michigan and finally settled in the Midwest. I can find no record of their official and legal admittance to this country. The only one who entered legally, apparently, was my Mexican grandfather—who was just visiting his aunt in Laredo, Texas.

Neither could most of you locate such papers. And that

most definitely includes papers for you Irish ancestors who walked off boats at ports from Boston to Charleston. Here's why: The United States had open borders until Congress passed the Chinese Exclusion Act in 1882. And Ellis Island? It didn't even become an entry point until the same year, as the European immigrant wave entered its crescendo.

Each wave was battered by its new home. The Irish? Not even white, it was claimed, and put to labor that was more menial and even deadlier than work done by animals because Irish people were considered less valuable. The Italians? Papist infiltrators, murderers and thieves. The Chinese? Rioted against in the West, killed randomly and shunned. Not to mention the Mexicans and Peruvians. Yet each time the most fundamental note of the American symphony sounded to correct us: the Constitution.

When the Chinese were barred, the federal government tried to expel the children of Chinese immigrants born here. However, in 1898, the Supreme Court ruled in *United States vs. Wok Kim Ark* that a son of undocumented immigrants was indeed a citizen. He was natural born, right here in the United States, after all. Not ruling so, the court wrote, would call into question the citizenship of every child of every immigrant.

The 1965 Immigration and Nationality Act abolished national quotas for foreign policy reasons, to encourage friendly relations with Asia, Africa and Latin America at the height of the Cold War. The law also allowed immigrants to sponsor relatives. And so they came. Around 2000, after a series of economic calamities, the Mexican diaspora sent record numbers north. Today, that's all over. A relative few Central Americans come north instead. Now, most illegal immigrants never see a border. People just arrive at an airport on a tourist visa and never leave.

So that's reality, but here is our higher calling: defending these people. Most are working, contributing members of society. The Army has concluded that foreign-born people make better soldiers than native-born. Immigrants will keep our workforce young, and they already pay payroll and sales taxes, documented or undocumented.

Legalizing the latter would mean shrinking the deficit by \$200 billion. So, a path to citizenship for them is crucial to the American future, as age creeps up on a country that will need to care for many more elderly people than ever before.

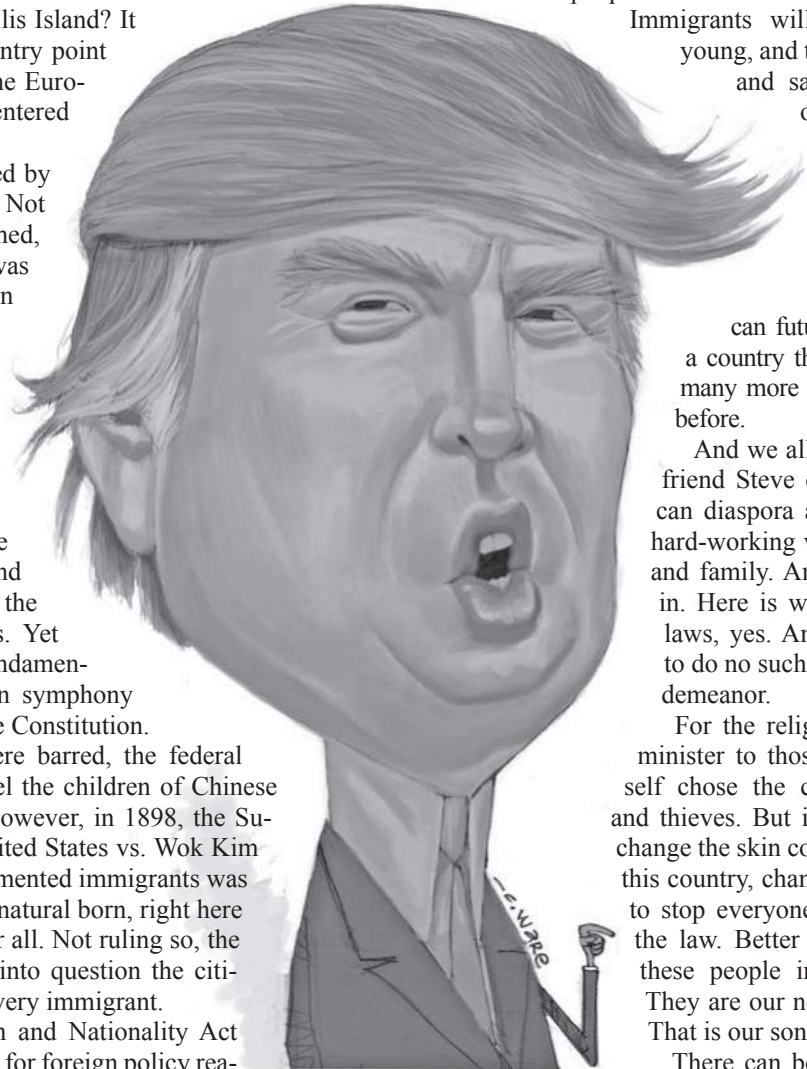
And we all know at least one. My friend Steve came during the Mexican diaspora and stayed; I know his hard-working ways, his wife, children and family. And I'm not turning him in. Here is why. We are a nation of laws, yes. And the law compels me to do no such thing for what is a misdemeanor.

For the religious, a first duty is to minister to those in need. Christ himself chose the company of prostitutes and thieves. But if, instead, you want to change the skin color of people coming to this country, change the law. If you want to stop everyone from coming, change the law. Better to fix the law and lift these people into the American life. They are our new brothers and sisters. That is our song, as people.

There can be no wall, no mass deportation of 11 million people; Europe tried it after World War II and 1 million ethnic Germans perished. And here's why. Because a just society is measured, always, by how it cares for its weakest.

This may be Trump's presidency, but it's our America.

Richard Parker is the lecturer-of-practice in journalism at Texas State University. He wrote this for The Dallas Morning News.



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Unprofessionalism?

I tend to wonder. What is it about unprofessionalism that makes people on the delivering end feel so empowered? Are they serious right now? A simple question can be answered with kindness and thought. Yet many people today find that being rude and having the "I am better than you"

attitude while addressing concerns is most appropriate. This baffles me!

An employee at the Department of Public Safety Payroll Office decided that this exact attitude was the best approach in providing remedy to my simple question about nonpayment of hours worked. Hmm...what is your opinion? I am aware of confidentiality as I am a U.S. Army veteran. My dilemma is that my question was, "How long will it take you to route the papers to Finance?" This question was a question about time, nothing confidential. So the answer I received was, "I cannot tell you." Say what? You don't know how long

it will take YOU to bring the documents up to Finance on Capitol Hill? Hmm...

I have already requested assistance from lawmakers on finding a solution to the unprofessionalism at the Department of Public Safety Payroll Office. I hope that this will be an eye opener, and with hopes that a realization is made to treat others how you want to be treated. No need for the last laugh, just my freedom of speech.

Naomi C.S. Taisakan

As Perdido, Saipan

If you have an Apple or Android phone

If you use your phone at home, no problem, provided your home WiFi is password protected. The password is important, because it thwarts strangers from freeloading.

Regardless, it's a good idea to get a VPN for your phone and your home computer. A VPN is a "virtual privacy network" which scrambles the communications—to and from your unit. Although there are paid VPN's, there are some pretty good free ones, and one I like is called Betternet VPN.

It's especially important to have a VPN on your phone if you use it in public places, such as coffee shops, hotel lobbies, or other outside locales. Switching on Betternet will block any in-

trusions from potential hackers.

The other good thing about Betternet VPN is that it's free, and also works on home computers. If you have a Chrome or SR browser, it's effortless to set up. Google "Betternet for Chrome," click on the link and presto—it's installed. You don't have to register, sign up, or pay a single penny. Betternet VPN also works with other browsers.

Cool apps!

One of the blessings of YouTube is that it shows videos of cool stuff for your phone—apps which are not generally available through Google Play. In most videos of "banned apps" (they're not really

banned, just hard to find) there is an installation link below the video.

For example, if you want to watch movies for free, Google an app named "Showbox." You will see the link and, if you click on it, it will download to your phone. Then all you need to do is to set it up and watch movies.

Part of the fun of having a smartphone is finding cool apps, especially the free ones. You can find them on YouTube and also a Google search will turn up hundreds of "banned" apps.

Russ Mason

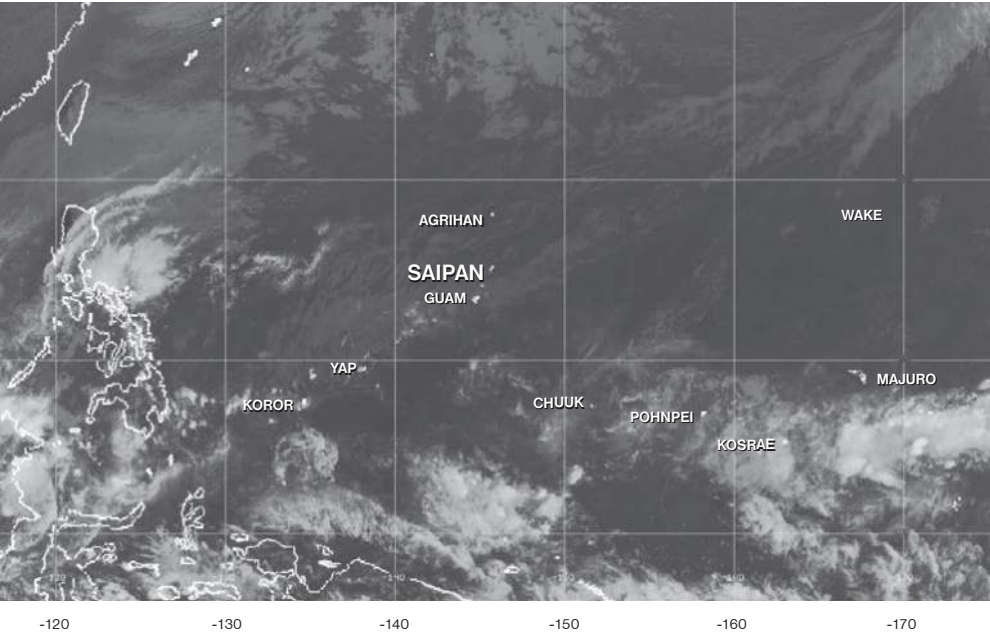
As Teo, Saipan

The Weather

5-DAY FORECAST FOR SAIPAN AND TINIAN

TODAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Mostly cloudy and breezy with isolated showers. Northeast winds 20 to 25 mph.	Mostly cloudy and breezy. Scattered showers.	Mostly cloudy and breezy. Scattered showers.	Mostly cloudy and breezy. Scattered showers.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers.
▲ 87° ▼ 78°	▲ 87° ▼ 78°	▲ 87° ▼ 78°	▲ 87° ▼ 78°	▲ 88° ▼ 78°

YESTERDAY'S SATELLITE IMAGE



PICTURE TIME: 7:00 AM, SUNDAY, JANUARY 22, 2017
Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

Low-end scattered showers are expected through this evening as the shear line lifts northward. Deep convection has waned since early this morning, but felt it prudent to keep a slight chance of thunderstorms for today as water vapor imagery does show some deep moisture in the area and radar tops has briefly shown some clouds reaching up to 50 thousand feet. Monday and Tuesday will be slightly drier, but then another shear line is expected to drop down over the area around midweek bringing more passing showers. Also, winds will increase to between 20 and 30 mph as the shear line reaches the area.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

MICRONESIA		▲ ▼ °F
Guam and Rota	Partly Cloudy	85° / 77°
Palau	Thunderstorm	86° / 78°
Yap	Thunderstorm	85° / 79°
Chuuk	Thunderstorm	85° / 80°
Pohnpei	Thunderstorm	84° / 78°
Kosrae	Thunderstorm	84° / 78°
Majuro	Thunderstorm	84° / 79°

AROUND THE GLOBE		▲ ▼ °F
Auckland	Mostly Sunny	72° / 61°
Beijing	Partly Cloudy	39° / 21°
Hong Kong	Mostly Cloudy	64° / 61°
Honolulu	Mostly Sunny	82° / 67°
London	Partly Cloudy	43° / 30°
Los Angeles	Rain	57° / 43°
Manila	Partly Cloudy	84° / 72°
Melbourne	Rain	73° / 57°
Miami	Windy	83° / 67°
New York	Rain	48° / 46°
Osaka	Partly Cloudy	43° / 30°
Paris	Partly Cloudy	41° / 27°
Pusan	Sunny	41° / 23°
Rome	Showers	54° / 43°
Salem	Showers	62° / 42°
San Francisco	Snow	31° / 12°
Seoul	Sunny	30° / 10°
Tokyo	Sunny	45° / 28°
Washington, DC	Rain	56° / 46°

NMI CRIME STOPPERS

Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any IT&E cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.net

TIDES: SAIPAN HARBOR TODAY			FEET
5:39 AM	HIGH TIDE		1.46
10:19 AM	LOW TIDE		1.14
3:49 PM	HIGH TIDE		1.75
11:25 PM	LOW TIDE		0.07

	SUNRISE	SUNSET
Today	6:47 AM	6:11 PM
Tuesday	6:47 AM	6:11 PM
Wednesday	6:47 AM	6:12 PM
Thursday	6:47 AM	6:12 PM
Friday	6:47 AM	6:13 PM

	MOONRISE	MOONSET	MOONRISE
Today	2:33 AM	2:18 PM	-
Tuesday	3:22 AM	3:04 PM	-
Wednesday	4:12 AM	3:52 PM	-
Thursday	5:01 AM	4:42 PM	-
Friday	5:51AM	5:34 PM	-

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FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF JANUARY 17, 2017

DEPARTURES				ARRIVALS			
SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)				GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN			
UA6394	4:15am	5:05am	Daily	UA6393	2:45am	3:35am	Daily
UA6392	8:40am	9:30am	Daily	UA6395	7:15am	8:05am	Daily
UA6391	1:30pm	3:10pm	1, 4, 5, 7 via Rota	UA6391	12:10pm	1:00pm	1, 4, 5, 7
UA6390	2:20pm	3:10pm	2, 3, 6	UA6390	12:10pm	1:50pm	2, 3, 6 via Rota
UA6398	6:05pm	6:55pm	Daily	UA6397	4:45pm	5:35pm	Daily
UA6396	9:50pm	10:40pm	Daily	UA6399	8:30pm	9:20pm	Daily
SAIPAN-ROTA (ROP)				GUAM (GUM)-ROTA (ROP)			
UA6391	1:30pm	2:05pm	1, 4, 5, 7	UA6390	12:10pm	12:45pm	2, 3, 6
ROTA (ROP)-GUAM (GUM)				ROTA (ROP)-SAIPAN			
UA6391	2:35pm	3:10pm	1, 4, 5, 7	UA6390	1:15pm	1:50pm	2, 3, 6
SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)				NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN			
DL297	4:15pm	7:05pm	Daily	DL298	10:25am	2:55pm	Daily
SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)				SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN			
TW308	2:35am	6:25am	Daily	LJ651	8:25am	1:45pm	Daily
OZ626	2:10am	6:00am	1	ZE581	9:50am	3:20pm	Daily
OZ626	2:50am	6:40am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7	7C3402	10:10am	3:30pm	Daily
TW308	3:05am	6:55am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6	TW307	8:15pm	1:35am+1	Daily
OZ628	3:50am	7:40am	Daily	OZ625	7:40pm	1:00am+1	7
7C3403	4:35am	8:30am	Daily	OZ625	8:20pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
LJ652	3:10pm	7:05pm	Daily	TW307	8:45pm	2:05am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5
7C3401	4:30pm	8:25pm	Daily	OZ627	9:30pm	2:50am+1	Daily
ZE582	4:30pm	9:05pm	Daily	7C3404	10:10pm	3:30am+1	Daily
SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)				BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN			
7C3451	2:55am	6:10am	1, 7	7C3452	8:30pm	1:20am+1	6, 7
OZ608	3:10am	6:20am	4, 7	OZ607	9:00pm	1:50am+1	3, 6
7C3451	3:15am	6:30am	4, 5	7C3452	9:35pm	2:15am+1	3, 4
SAIPAN-JEJU (CJU)				JEJU (CJU)-SAIPAN			
7C3433	3:55am	7:30am	3, 7	7C3434	10:05pm	2:40am+1	2, 6
SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)				SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN			
3U8648	5:40am	8:00am	1, 4, 5, 7	3U8647	10:20pm	4:30am+1	3, 4, 6, 7
SAIPAN-BEIJING (PEK)				BEIJING (PEK)-SAIPAN			
MU764	1:30am	6:55am	3, 5, 7	MU763	4:40pm	12:30am+1	2, 4, 6
SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN)				GUANGZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN			
3U8646	4:30am	7:50am	2, 6	3U8645	7:50pm	2:40am+1	1, 5
SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)				MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN			
OZ626/701	2:10am	10:50am	1 via ICN	UA190/6397	9:55am	5:35pm	2, 3, 6, 7 via GUM
OZ626/701	2:50am	10:50am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN	OZ702/625	12:30pm	1:00am+1	7 via ICN
UA6394/191	4:15am	9:00am	2, 3, 6, 7 via GUM	OZ702/625	12:30pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
UA6394/PR111	4:15am	9:30am	Daily via GUM	PR110/UA6395	10:05pm	8:05am+1	Daily via GUM
PR1572	5:45am	7:45am	4, 7	PR1571	10:25pm	4:45am+1	3, 6
UA6391/183	1:30pm	9:30pm	5 via Rota-GUM	UA192/6395	10:20pm	8:05am+1	2, 5 via ROR-GUM
UA6391/183	1:30pm	9:50pm	1, 4, 7 via Rota-GUM	UA184/6395	10:55pm	8:05am+1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
UA6391/193	1:30pm	11:10pm	5 via Rota-GUM-ROR	UA184/6395	11:55pm	8:05am+1	2, 5 via GUM
UA6390/183	2:20pm	9:30pm	2 via GUM				
UA6390/183	2:20pm	9:50pm	3, 6 via GUM				
UA6390/193	2:20pm	11:10pm	2 via GUM-ROR				
SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG)				HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN			
UO43	1:40am	5:00am	1, 4, 6	OZ722/625	1:15pm	1:00am+1	7 via ICN
HX077	2:15am	5:15am	1, 4	OZ722/625	1:15pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
OZ626/721	2:10am	11:50am	1 via ICN	OZ724/627	2:20pm	2:50am+1	Daily via ICN
OZ626/721	2:50am	11:50am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN	HX076	5:50pm	12:45am+1	3, 7
OZ628/723	3:50am	12:50pm	Daily via ICN	PR307/1571	6:20pm	4:45am+1	3, 6 via MNL
PR1572/318	5:45am	12:20pm	4, 7 via MNL	UO42	9:30pm	4:25am+1	2, 4, 6
UA6391/159	1:30pm	10:35pm	1, 5 via Rota-GUM	UA116/6395	9:55pm	8:05am+1	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM
UA6390/159	2:20pm	10:35pm	3, 6 via GUM				

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 3U Sichuan Airlines, 7C Jeju Air, DL Delta Airlines, UO HK Express, HX HongKong Airlines, LJ Jin Air, MU China Eastern, OZ Asiana Airlines, TW t'way Air, UA United Airlines, ZE Eastar Jet; ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. *(The Saipan Tribune is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)*

STAR MARIANAS AIR, INC.

TINIAN TO SAIPAN			6:30PM	6:45PM	Daily	6:00PM	6:15PM	Daily
DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY	6:30PM	6:45PM	Daily	SAIPAN TO TINIAN		
7:30AM	7:45AM	Daily	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY	7:45AM	8:15AM	Mon, Tues,Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat
8:30AM	8:45AM	Daily	7:00AM	7:15AM	Daily	4:00PM	4:30PM	Mon, Tues,Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat
9:30AM	9:45AM	Daily	8:00AM	8:15AM	Daily	ROTA TO SAIPAN		
10:30AM	10:45AM	Daily	9:00AM	9:15AM	Daily	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
11:30AM	11:45AM	Daily	10:00AM	10:15AM	Daily	8:30AM	9:00AM	Mon, Tues,Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat
12:30NN	12:45NN	Daily	11:00AM	11:15AM	Daily	4:45PM	5:15PM	Mon, Tues,Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat
1:30PM	1:45PM	Daily	12:00NN	12:15NN	Daily			
2:30PM	2:45PM	Daily	1:00PM	1:15PM	Daily			
3:30PM	3:45PM	Daily	2:00PM	2:15PM	Daily			
4:30PM	4:45PM	Daily	3:00PM	3:15PM	Daily			
5:30PM	5:45PM	Daily	4:00PM	4:15PM	Daily			
			5:00PM	5:15PM	Daily			

OAG announces Toyota frame class action settlement

The Office of the Attorney General announced Friday that a preliminary class action settlement agreement has been entered into by Toyota Motor Sales, U.S., concerning 2005-2010 Toyota Tacoma, 2007-2008 Tundra, and 2005-2008 Sequoia vehicles.

Attorney General Edward Manibusan said: “The OAG receives information regu-

larly on class action lawsuits filed in U.S. jurisdictions. The Toyota case caught my attention because we have a large number of Toyota vehicles in the Commonwealth. I wanted to make sure that Toyota vehicle owners are aware of the agreement.”

According to OAG consumer counsel Michael J. Cyganek, “the proposed settle-

ment provides for a free Frame Inspection and Replacement Program to determine whether a [ehicle]’s frame should be replaced. If the frame needs to be replaced to meet the Rust Perforation Standard, replacement will be at no cost.”

“The settlement also reimburses class members who previously paid for a frame replacement due to rust per-

foration that satisfies the Rust Perforation Standard and that were incurred prior to Jan. 3, 2017,” he added.

Specifically, this class action settlement agreement relates to the following vehicles distributed for sale or lease in the United States, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico and all other United States territories and/or possessions:

Toyota Model	Model Years
Tacoma	2005-2010
Tundra	2007-2008
Sequoia	2005-2008

Cyganek explains: Those affected by the settlement are persons, entities or organizations who at the time as of or before Dec. 2, 2016, owned, purchased or leased the [vehicles] distributed for sale” in those jurisdictions.

Cyganek also noted the following deadlines:

- March 27, 2017: Deadline to object to the settlement
- March 27, 2017: Deadline to exclude yourself from the settlement
- March 27, 2017: Deadline to ask the court for permission to speak at the fairness hearing
- April 27, 2017: Fairness hearing
- June 26, 2017: File a claim to seek reimbursement deadline

Man allegedly burglarizes shop with hammer

A 28-year-old man allegedly broke into the 670 Rock Steady Shop in Gualo Rai by breaking the glass window with a hammer early Wednesday morning last week and stealing jewelry, clothes, and other items worth \$4,026.

Police said that Moses Leeroy Rangamar admitted to the burglary. He was arrested for burglary and theft. Police recovered some of the stolen items. His bail was set

at \$11,000 cash; preliminary hearing is on Jan. 25 at 9am.

According to shop’s owner, still more items are missing.

Chief Public Defender Douglas Hartig was appointed as counsel for Rangamar. Assistant attorney general Heather Barcinas appeared for the government.

A police officer responded on Wednesday at 4:59am to a burglary and theft incident at 670 Rock Steady Shop on Cha-

lan Pale Arnold in Gualo Rai.

The shop’s owner told the officer that among the stolen items were assorted G-Shock and Hello Kitty wrist watches, assorted jewelry, wallets, 670 Rock Steady clothes, and a cash box.

Two other police officers, who also responded to the scene, made a routine check at U-Luck Poker II north of 670 Rock Steady and noticed a silver Ford Fusion 4-door sedan

whose window was open. In the back seat were 670 Rock Steady jersey wrapped in plastic packages and Geo Star wristwatch boxes.

Rangamar approached and stated he owns the car.

The 670 Rock Steady Shop owner was later escorted to U-Luck Poker parking lot where he identified all the items in the car to be their stolen property.

Rangamar was then arrested. Allegedly, he later admitted to the burglary. **(Ferdie de la Torre)**

CHCC employees: Healthcare is better now

By **ERWIN ENCINARES**
erwin_encinares@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Employees of the Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. believe the corporation is better off now, compared to when it had a governing body overseeing its operations.

CHCC employees who were there during the time when the Department of Health was still in charge of the lone hospital in the CNMI, the Commonwealth Health Center, said the hospital has been improving since its days of being under DPH.

“When the hospital was under the government it was hard to get supplies. It was hard to get money to purchase what

we needed here, so we had to do what we can with what we have,” said an employee of CHC’s billing department, who spoke on the condition of anonymity.

“When we became a corporation, it got better because we controlled the money that was being used [for the hospital],” she added, saying that an additional layer of authority is not desirable when it came to emergency situations.

The employee of the billing department has been working for CHC since 2002 to early 2012 before resigning and then later returning in 2013. The employee has been at CHC since then and has served the hospital for a total of 14 years.

When asked about her thoughts on the imposition of a governing board to manage CHCC, she replied that she was not against the authority of the board and wished for experienced people to look over CHCC operations.

“I am not against the governing board. I just want people that have knowledge in the field of healthcare, because it is hard to work with people who do not understand what needs to be done in a hospital.”

She said differences in priorities may take place because of the lack of experience of board members.

“I hope [the future board] will listen to what we have to say and what we know.

I hope they don’t just cut in and try to drastically change the situation of CHCC. I am not against working with the governing board if they know what they are doing. It is hard to work with people that do not have knowledge in providing proper healthcare,” she said.

Most CHCC employees are worried about their ability to continue receiving funds from the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services. In earlier interviews, CHCC CEO Esther Muna said 70 percent of patients coming to CHC rely on Medicaid funding.

According to official sources, CHCC has been hiring more doctors and has seen an improvement in bill collections since being a corporation.

The CHCC advisory board has been inactive since 2015 due to the lack of appointees. Three terms of five members expired in 2015, while the rest expired last year.

The CHCC board used to be made up board chair Joaquin Torres, vice chair Peter Delacruz, and Anthony Raho representing Saipan, while Roy Rios, and Philipp Mendiola-Long represented Rota and Tinian respectively.

Appointments for the new governing CHCC board have yet to be made.

The currently non-existent CHCC board will be transformed from being an advisory body to a governing one after Gov. Ralph DLG Torres signed House Bill 19-186 into law as Public Law 19-78.

Thomas K. Sablan/Thelma S. Sablan
P.O. Box 503259
785-9754
Pro se

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT
OF THE
COMMONWEALTH OF THE
NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

In The Matter Of)
The Adoption Of:) FCD-AD-
Jennalynn S. Sablan) CIVIL ACTION
Minor Child) NO. 16-0624

By:)
Thomas K. Sablan/)
Thelma S. Sablan)
Petitioner(s))

NOTICE OF
HEARING

Notice is hereby given that the
above-entitled matter is set for a
hearing on 6th day of February,
2017 at 1:30 PM in Courtroom 205A,
before the Honorable Judge
Govendo.

Dated this 4th day of January,
2017.

/s/ By: Patrick V. Diaz,
Deputy Clerk of Court

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
Bureau of Environmental and Coastal Quality
Division of Coastal Resources Management
P.O. Box 10007, Saipan, MP 96950
Tel: (670) 664-8300; Fax: (670) 664-8315
www.crm.gov.mp

NOTICE OF
PUBLIC HEARING

The Division of Coastal Resources Management (DCRM) will be holding a public hearing on the Saipan International Real Estate Development Corporation, Ltd. (SIREDC) proposed changes to the Ocean Vista Resort project under CRM permit application number SMS-2015-X-010. The CRM permit amendment application was submitted on January 04, 2017 for the proposed changes as follows: (1) To expand and move the main hotel building further to the southwest and reduced car parking to the rear of the hotel block; (2) To include guest rooms to the back of the main hotel building; (3) To move the villas to the front of the property along the main road; (4) To increase green space of the development by reducing the vehicle parking footprint by including a two-storey garage; (5) To relocate the swimming pool outside; and (6) To add a wedding chapel.

The proposed changes to the Ocean Vista Resort project will be situated in Lower Capitol Hill on 10 acres of private lands encompassing Lot Numbers H 328-3, H 328-5, and TR-21698.

The public hearing is scheduled for Thursday, February 09, 2017, at 5:00 PM at the BECQ 2nd Floor Conference Room in Lower Gualo Rai, Middle Road, Saipan.

Written comments can be submitted to the DCRM Office, Suite 305, Gualo Rai Center, Middle Road, Gualo Rai, Saipan, or mail to the Division of Coastal Resources Management, Caller Box 10007 or by fax at 664-8315. The project file is open for review and comment during regular business hours from 7:30 A.M. – 4:30 P.M., Monday through Friday. All written and oral comments received by DCRM will be included as part of the permit application record and will be considered in any decisions concerning the proposed project.

Please contact the DCRM at 664-8300/1 if you have any questions or would like to learn more about the Ocean Vista Resort project and 2017 Amendment application.

/s/ Frances A. Castro
Director, Division of Coastal Resources Management

COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS
HAZARD MITIGATION GRANT PROGRAM, DR-4235-MP
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

ADDENDUM NO. 2
January 18, 2017
ITB17-GOV-048
Supply and Installation of Typhoon Shutters – Rota
Municipality Government Buildings

1. For bidders within the CNMI, an original and two copies of sealed bids must be submitted to the Director of Procurement and Supply located at the former Emergency Management Office, Building No. 1301, Ascension Drive, Capitol Hill, Saipan no later than 10:00 a.m., Saipan Local Time, January 26, 2017. Bidders located outside of the CNMI may obtain an additional seven (7) working days for receipt of their bids by submitting a Notice of Intent to Bid. Notices of Intent to Bid must be received by the Director of Procurement and Supply no later than 10:00 a.m., Saipan Local Time, January 26, 2017, and must be transmitted via facsimile to (670) 664-1515, or via e-mail to procurement@pticom.com. For bidders located outside the CNMI, an original and two copies of sealed bids must be postmarked by the U.S. Postal Service of the official government postal service of a foreign country no later than January 26, 2017, and must be received no later than 10:00 a.m., Saipan Local Time, on February 06, 2017. Note that failure to submit the required number of copies may be cause for rejection of a bid.

Bids will be publicly opened and read at the Division of Procurement and Supply, located at the former Emergency Management Office Building No. 1301, Ascension Drive, Capitol Hill, Saipan, at 10:00 a.m., February 06, 2017. However, if no notices of Intent to Bid are received from bidders from outside the CNMI, bids will be opened at 2:00 p.m., Saipan Local Time, on January 26, 2017.

All other elements of ITB17-GOV-048 remain as originally provided. For further information on this project, please contact the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program Office at (670) 664-2375 or fax (670) 664-2408 during working hours (7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. – Monday through Friday, except holidays).

END OF ADDENDUM NO. 2

/s/ Virginia C. Villagomez
Governor’s Authorized Representative

For more information or to file a claim, visit the class action settlement agreement website (<http://www.toyotaframesettlement.com/home/faqs/#q3>) which summarizes this action and also provides the option to submit a claim for relief.

Any questions may be directed to the Settlement Notice Administrator by phone at 1-800-481-7948.

Manibusan said: “My office will continue its review of consumer protection litigation and inform consumers here in the Commonwealth of matters that may affect their rights and interests.” **(OAG)**

Robert Tenorio Torres
Attorney at Law
Plata Drive
Whispering Palms
P.O. Box 503758
Saipan, MP 96950

Tel: (670) 234-7859
Facsimile: (670) 234-5749

Attorney for Petitioner: Maria M. Cruz

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

Civil Action No. 17-0002

IN THE MATTER OF)
OF THE) NOTICE OF
ESTATE OF:) HEARING
ESTEFANIA) ON PETITION
PALACIOS) TO PROBATE
SCRUGGS,) WILL and
Decedent.) NOTICE TO CREDITORS
Date: February 9, 2017
Time: 9:00 a.m.
Judge: Camacho

TO: THE GENERAL PUBLIC, ANY HEIRS, CLAIMANTS, OR CREDITORS OF THE LATE ESTEFANIA PALACIOS SCRUGGS OR OF HER ESTATE:

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Petitioner, **Maria M. Cruz** of Saipan, CNMI (“Petitioner”), has petitioned the Superior Court of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands Probate the Will of the **Estate of Estefania Palacios Scruggs, Decedent**. The attorney for Petitioner is **Robert T. Torres, Esq., whose address is Plata Drive, Chalan Kiya, P.O. Box 503758, Saipan, MP 96950.**

The hearing on the Petition to Probate Will by **Maria M. Cruz**, as Petitioner, is scheduled to be heard on February 9, 2017 at 9:00 a.m., at the Superior Court of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, Guma’ Hustisia, Civic Center, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. All interested persons or entities should appear at this hearing.

Any and all persons, creditors or entities having claims against the Decedent or her estate are hereby required by law to file their claims with the Clerk of Court within Sixty (60) days of this publication, or the claim(s) will be barred. A copy of your claim should also be sent to **ROBERT TENORIO TORRES, Attorney at Law, at the address herein-above indicated.**

Dated this 4th day of January, 2017.

/s/
Clerk of Court/Deputy Clerk

Business

Chinese express doubts about US relations under Trump

BEIJING (AP)—People in Beijing expressed doubts Saturday about President Donald Trump's ability to steer the U.S. economy and manage China-American relations, underscoring concerns over trade, Taiwan and other issues.

While Trump didn't mention China in his inaugural address Friday, he referred often to the country during the campaign and upended diplomatic protocol after the election by speaking on the phone with the president of self-governing Taiwan, the island China considers its own territory.

Aaron Wang, who works for a logistics company, said he hoped for the best but was wary of Trump's threat to disrupt commerce between the countries, including imposing a 45 percent tariff on Chinese imports.

"I will wait and see what Trump actually does in the future, but I do hope that the China-U.S. relations can develop in a good direction under Trump's presidency," said Wang.

A retired teacher, who would only give her surname, Wei, said Trump hadn't yet shown that he could handle



A giant inflatable rooster, widely perceived in China to resemble U.S. President-elect Donald Trump, is inflated at a factory in Jiading near Shanghai, Friday, Jan. 13, 2017. The factory, Yifang Inflatables, began selling the inflatables after images of a large sculpture of a similar design outside a shopping center in the northern city of Taiyuan went viral on social media last month.

the U.S. presidency.

"It's really uncertain whether he can properly run the U.S.," Wei said. "A business person can run a country very well, but he can also do a very bad job."

On a visit to Beijing, Dunkin' Brands CEO Nigel Davis said he wanted to reinforce the importance of global free trade to Trump, who opposes the 12-nation Trans-Pacific Partnership and has suggested he might renegotiate the 1994 North American Free Trade Agreement.

"I will give him concrete examples and talk to him about how you can overcome obstacles," Davis told The Associated Press.

China is the world's second-largest economy behind the U.S., and Trump railed during his campaign against alleged Chinese cheating at trade and manipulation of its currency. Those assertions came despite evidence that for the past couple of years, China has been intervening in markets to prop up its currency, not push it lower in a manner that would benefit exporters to the detriment of U.S. businesses.

How Trump's executive order impacts future of 'Obamacare'

WASHINGTON (AP)—President Donald Trump's first executive order targets the sweeping "Obamacare" law by giving federal agencies broad leeway to chip away at the measure. But Trump still needs Congress to do away with the law for good.

Trump signed the executive order in the Oval Office Friday, hours after being sworn in as the 45th president of the United States.

The one-page directive gives agencies authority to grant waivers, exemptions and delays of provisions in the Affordable Care Act. But until it becomes clear what steps federal agencies take as a result, its full impact on Americans and their health insurance is uncertain.

Q: What does the order do?

A: Trump's order states that federal agencies can grant waivers, exemptions and delays of "Obamacare" provisions that would impose costs on states or individuals. That language appears to be aimed squarely at undoing the law's unpopular requirement that individuals carry health insurance or face fines—a key provision of the measure former President Barack Obama signed in 2010.

It's not spelled out whether the IRS could waive the fines for failing to secure coverage and the White House has not explained how it wants agencies to respond to the order.

The measure also directs agencies to stop issuing regulations that would expand the health care law's reach. And it says the federal government must allow states greater flexibility in carrying out health care programs.

"It's a sign that the Trump administration is looking to unwind the law in every way it can administratively," said Larry Levitt of the Kaiser Family Foundation, a nonpartisan clearinghouse for information and analysis about the health care system.

Q: Will people who get insurance under "Obamacare" lose their coverage as a result of Trump's order?

A: The order doesn't directly target the insurance marketplace at the center of the health care law. But some experts say that if the directive leads to broad exemptions from the law's coverage requirement, it could scare off insurers.

Insurers see the coverage requirement, or so-called individual mandate, as an essential tool to nudge healthy people into the coverage pool. With-

out it, the companies and most independent experts believe premiums would spike, making HealthCare.gov's insurance markets unsustainable.

Leslie Dach, campaign director of the Protect Our Care Coalition, issued a statement saying, "While President Trump may have promised a smooth transition, the executive order does the opposite, threatening disruption for health providers and patients." He called the executive order "irresponsible."

Q: How quickly will any changes take effect?

A: The executive order may not have much impact for 2017, since government rules for this year have already been incorporated into contracts signed with insurance companies.

Departments like Health and Human Services and Treasury will have to issue policies that embody the new president's wishes.

The Trump administration can rewrite regulations carrying out the legislation. New regulations cannot be issued overnight, but would have to follow a legally established process that requires public notice and an opportunity for interested parties to comment on the administration's changes.

Q: What is Congress' plan

for the Affordable Care Act?

A: With Republicans in control of both the White House and Congress, undoing Obama's health care law is at the top of the party's agenda for 2017.

There's broad agreement among Republicans that the law should be repealed. But lawmakers are far less unified about what should take its place and how quickly a new measure should take effect.

Shortly before taking office, Trump said he wanted Congress to pass repeal and replace measures "essentially simultaneously." That put some Republicans on edge, given the complexities of unwinding the current law.

Trump has also been vague about what he wants included in a replacement package, saying his administration will have a plan after the Senate confirms his nominee to lead the Department of Health and Human Services, Rep. Tom Price.

The president has said he wants to keep some of the measure's more popular elements, including allowing young people to stay on their parents' insurance until age 26 and preventing insurance companies from denying coverage to people with pre-existing conditions.

BUSINESS BRIEFS

Apple depicts Qualcomm as a shady monopolist in \$1B lawsuit

SAN FRANCISCO (AP)—Apple is suing mobile chip maker Qualcomm for \$1 billion in a patent fight pitting the iPhone maker against one of its major suppliers. The 100-page complaint filed Friday in a San Diego federal court depicts Qualcomm as a greedy monopolist abusing its power in a key segment of the mobile chip market to extort royalties for iPhone innovations that have nothing to do with Qualcomm's technology. For instance, Qualcomm demanded royalties on Apple's fingerprint identification system built into recent models of the iPhone and also for larger storage capacities on the devices, according to the lawsuit. Qualcomm denied the allegations. "We welcome the opportunity to have these meritless claims heard in court where we will be entitled to full discovery of Apple's practices and a robust examination of the merits," said Don Rosenberg, Qualcomm's general counsel.

Will Trump end globalization? The doubt haunts Davos' elite

DAVOS, Switzerland (AP)—

It's been impossible to escape the shadow of Donald Trump at this year's gathering of the business elites at the World Economic Forum in Davos, Switzerland. Uncertainty over whether Trump's presidency will mark the end of globalization dominated discussions all week at an event synonymous with international business. Sure, lofty ambitions were discussed, from fighting epidemics to dealing with inequalities across the world. But inevitably all talk turned to Trump, who has promised to rewrite free trade deals and even slap tariffs on China, the world's second-largest economy. "Do I really think we're gonna go back to protectionism? I don't really know yet and I can promise you I'm paying a lot of attention to it because trade matters to us," said David Cote, chairman and CEO of industrial conglomerate Honeywell. "It's a little too early to press the panic button; we ought to see what ends up happening here." Roberto Azevedo, director-general of the World Trade Organization, the body that oversees trading rules, reminded delegates of the 1930s, when governments raised tariffs and wiped out two-thirds of global trade in three years.

Nation

Over 1 million join anti-Trump women's marches worldwide

WASHINGTON (AP)—In a global exclamation of defiance and solidarity, more than 1 million people rallied at women's marches in the nation's capital and cities around the world Saturday to send President Donald Trump an emphatic message on his first full day in office that they won't let his agenda go unchallenged.

"Welcome to your first day, we will not go away!" marchers in Washington chanted.

Many of the women came wearing pink, pointy-eared "pussyhats" to mock the new president. Plenty of men joined in, too, contributing to surprising numbers everywhere from New York, Philadelphia, Chicago and Los Angeles to Mexico City, Paris, Berlin, London, Prague and Sydney.

The Washington rally alone attracted over 500,000 people according to city officials—apparently more than Trump's inauguration drew on Friday. It was easily one of the biggest demonstrations in the city's history, and as night fell, not a single arrest was reported.

■■■■
LANGLEY, Va. (AP)—On his first full day in office, President Donald Trump on Saturday berated the media over its coverage of his inauguration, and turned a bridge-building first visit to CIA headquarters into an airing of grievances about "dishonest" journalists. But it was Trump who spread inaccuracies about the size of the crowds at his swearing in.

Standing in front of a memorial for fallen CIA agents,

Trump assured intelligence officials, "I am so behind you." He made no mention of his repeated criticism of the intelligence agencies following the election, including his public challenges of their high-confidence assessment that Russia meddled in the White House race to help him win.

"There is nobody that feels stronger about the intelligence community and CIA than Donald Trump," he said, blaming any suggestion of a "feud" on the media.

But in unscripted, stream-of-consciousness remarks, Trump appeared more focused on settling scores with the media.

Suggestions that weak enthusiasm accompanied his inauguration clearly irked the new president. Shortly after his remarks, he dispatched his press secretary, Sean Spicer, to the White House briefing room to aggressively reinforce the message.

High-level CIA brass stood largely silent during Trump's remarks, though some of the roughly 400 other officers in attendance cheered on the president during his remarks.

California Rep. Adam Schiff, the top Democrat on the House Intelligence Committee, slammed Trump for using his CIA visit to squabble over media coverage.

"He will need to do more than use the agency memorial as a backdrop if he wants to earn the respect of the men and women who provide the best intelligence in the

world,' Schiff said.

Former CIA Director John Brennan went further. His former aide Nick Shapiro released a statement saying "Brennan is deeply saddened and angered at Donald Trump's despicable display of self-aggrandizement in front of CIA's Memorial Wall of Agency heroes. Brennan says that Trump should be ashamed of himself."

■■■

The international outpouring served to underscore the degree to which Trump has unsettled people in both hemispheres.

"We march today for the moral core of this nation, against which our new president is waging a war," actress America Ferrera told the Washington crowd. "Our dignity, our character, our rights have all been under attack, and a platform of hate and division assumed power yesterday. But the president is not America. ... We are America, and we are here to stay."

Turnout in the capital was so heavy that the designated march route alongside the National Mall was impassable. Protesters were told to make their way to the Ellipse near the White House by way of other streets, triggering a chaotic scene that snarled downtown Washington. Long after the program had ended, groups of demonstrators were still marching and chanting in different parts of the city.

White House press secretary Sean Spicer had no comment on the march except to note

that there were no firm numbers for turnout because the National Park Service no longer provides crowd estimates.

Around the world, women brandished signs with slogans such as "Women won't back down" and "Less fear more love." They decried Trump's stand on such issues as abortion, health care, diversity and climate change. And they branded him a sexist, a bully, a bigot and more.

"We want a leader, not a creepy tweeter," some marchers chanted in Washington.

In Chicago, organizers canceled the march portion of their event for safety reasons because of an overflow crowd that reached an estimated 250,000. People made their way through the streets on their own anyway. In New York, well over 100,000 marched past Trump's home at glittering Trump Tower on Fifth Avenue. More than 100,000 also gathered on Boston Common, and a similar number demonstrated in Los Angeles.

In Miami, real estate agent Regina Vasquez, 51, brought a sign saying "Repeal and Replace Trump."

"I believe that strength is in the numbers, and that we should all come out and not make Trump the new normal," she said.

All told, more than 600 "sister marches" were planned worldwide. Crowd estimates from police and organizers around the globe added up to well over a million.

"I feel very optimistic even though it's a miserable mo-

ment," said Madeline Schwartzman of New York City, who brought her twin 13-year-old daughters to the Washington rally. "I feel power."

Retired teacher Linda Lastella, 69, who came to Washington from Metuchen, New Jersey, said she had never marched before but felt the need to speak out when "many nations are experiencing this same kind of pullback and hateful, hateful attitudes."

"It just seemed like we needed to make a very firm stand of where we were," she said.

As the demonstrators rallied alongside the National Mall, Trump opened his first full day as president by attending a prayer service at the Washington National Cathedral, a tradition for the day after inauguration, and later visited the CIA. As he traveled around town, his motorcade passed large groups of protesters that would have been hard to miss.

The Women's March on Washington appeared to accomplish the historic feat of drawing more people to protest the inauguration than the ceremony itself attracted.

It far surpassed the 60,000 people who protested the Vietnam War at Richard Nixon's inauguration in 1973. Before Saturday, that was thought to be the largest such demonstration in inaugural history.

Christopher Geldart, Washington's homeland security director, said the crowd exceeded the 500,000 that organizers told city officials to expect. The largest-ever demonstration in Washington, accord-

ing to National Park Service crowd estimates, was an anti-Vietnam protest in 1969 that drew 600,000.

The Million Man March in 1995 drew 400,000, according to the park service, which no longer estimates crowd sizes, in part because the organizers of that event accused the agency of lowballing the number and threatened to sue.

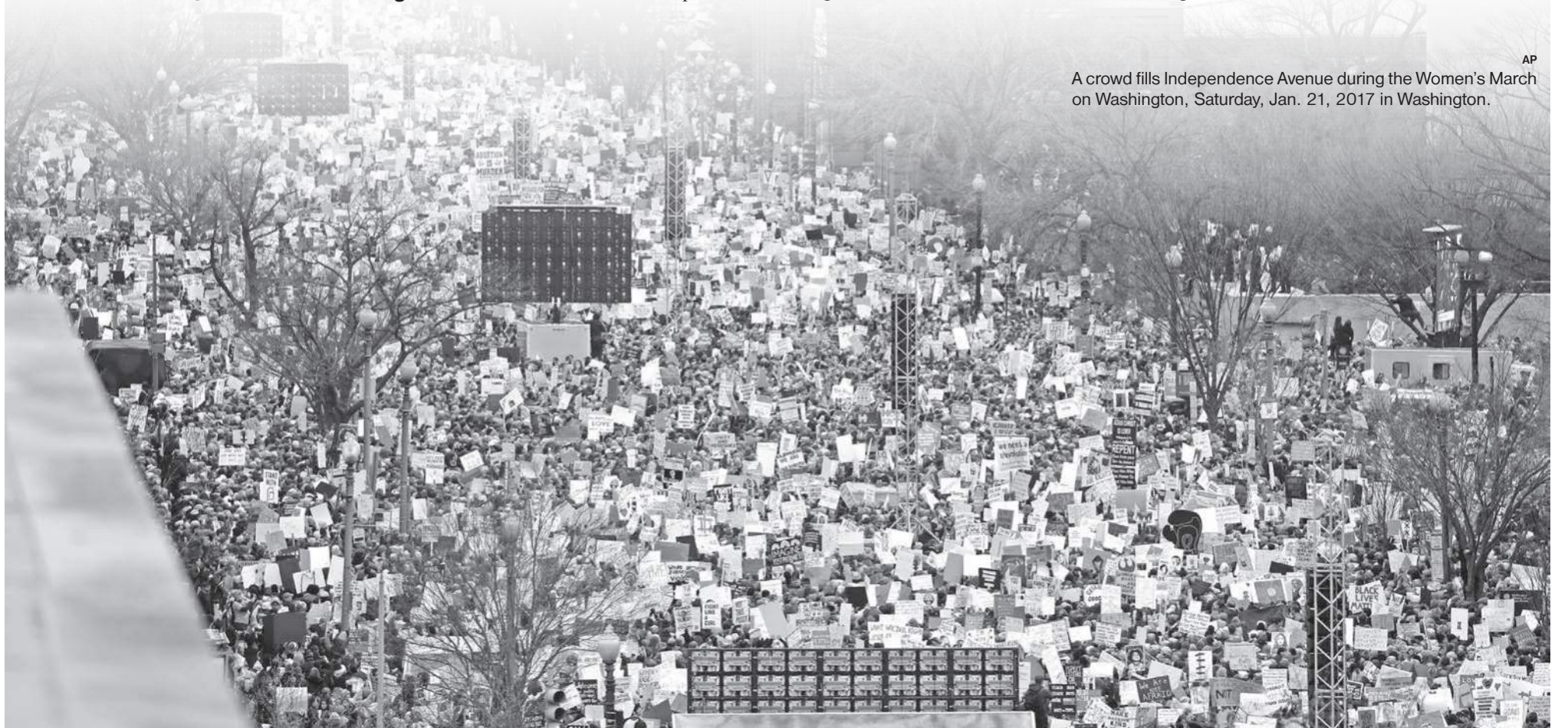
The Washington rally was a peaceful counterpoint to the window-smashing unrest that unfolded on Friday when self-described anarchists tried to disrupt the inauguration. Police used pepper spray and stun grenades against the demonstrators. More than 200 people were arrested.

Marlita Gogan, who came to Washington from Houston for the inauguration, said police advised her family not to wear their "Make America Great Again Hats" as they walked through crowds of protesters while playing tourist on Saturday.

"I think it's very oppressive," she said of the march atmosphere. "They can have their day, but I don't get it."

Hillary Clinton, who lost to Trump, took to Twitter to thank the participants for "standing, speaking and marching for our values."

The marches displayed a level of enthusiasm that Clinton herself was largely unable to generate during her campaign against Trump, when she won the popular vote but was outdistanced in the Electoral College that decides the White House.



A crowd fills Independence Avenue during the Women's March on Washington, Saturday, Jan. 21, 2017 in Washington. AP

Asia

At least 32 killed, 50 injured as train derails in India

NEW DELHI (AP)—An overnight passenger train derailed in southern India, killing at least 32 people and injuring 50 others in the latest accident to hit the country's massive, disaster-prone rail network.

Seven coaches of the Hirakand Express were thrown off the tracks around midnight Saturday, some landing on a goods train that was on a parallel track, said Divisional Railway manager Chandral-ekha Mukherji.

Rescue workers were trying to cut open the mangled coaches Sunday morning near the Kureru railway station in the Vizianagram district of Andhra Pradesh state. The train was traveling between Jagdalpur in Chhattisgarh state to Bhubaneswar in Orissa.

J.P. Misra, the chief press officer of the East Coast Railways, said that the toll could rise further as many people were still trapped. An investigation is underway.

In November, 146 people were killed when a packed passenger train derailed near the town of Kanpur in Uttar Pradesh in the deadliest rail accident in the country in at least five years.

India's railway system is the world's third largest, but is severely hampered by a lack of modern signaling and communication systems as well as poor maintenance of tracks and equipment. Manual sig-



naling is still used at several places, raising the risk of human error.

According to a government report in 2012, about 15,000 people are killed every year in train accidents. The worst occurred in 1981, when a train fell into the Bagmati River in northern India, killing nearly 800 people.

Prime Minister Narendra

Modi pledged last year to invest \$137 billion over the next five years to modernize the railway network, which is used by about 23 million passengers a day.

On Sunday, Modi tweeted his condolences for those killed in the most recent accident and said that the railway ministry was monitoring the situation closely.

Families lobby Malaysian minister to resume search for MH370

CANBERRA, Australia (AP)—Relatives of passengers and crew aboard the missing Malaysian airliner plan to present the Malaysian transport minister in Australia with letters urging that the search resume.

Sheryl Keen, a supporter of the international victims' advocacy group Voice370, said Sunday she plans to personally hand to Malaysian Transport Minister Liow Tiong Lai dozens of letters from relatives when Liow meets this week in the west coast city of Perth with his Australian counterpart Darren Chester.

Last week, Malaysia, Australia and China announced that the deep sea search for Malaysia Airlines Flight 370 had been suspended, perhaps forever, after a sonar scan of 120,000 square kilometers (46,000 square miles) of the Indian Ocean west of Australia failed to find any trace of the Boeing 777 that vanished on March 8, 2014, with 239 people on board after flying far off course during a trip

from Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, to Beijing.

Keen, who chairs her own support organization Aircrash Support Group of Australia, said she had yet to hear from the Malaysian Consulate in Perth whether she would be allowed a one-minute meeting with Liow on Sunday or Monday.

"The general content is urging him to continue the search," Keen said. "I do believe some of them are quite heartfelt and others are quite brief."

Chester said he would hold an informal meeting with Liow on Sunday. Both ministers will welcome the final search ship Fugro Equator when it returns from the abandoned search area to Perth's port at Fremantle on Monday.

"We will both be in Perth tomorrow to thank the crew of the Fugro Equator for their search efforts in trying conditions," Chester said in a statement.

Voice370 wants the ministers to use the meeting to

reconsider the suspension of the search.

"A quick decision to extend the search would avoid the immediate demobilization of the equipment on board the search vessel, Fugro Equator, and additional costs at a later date for mobilization of vessels," Voice370 said in a statement.

But Chester said the decision to suspend the search "was not taken lightly."

"I understand the disappointment and frustration felt by the families," he said. "Not knowing the final resting place of their loved ones only adds to the tragedy of the situation."

Voice370 has launched an online petition to increase public pressure on the governments to continue the search.

Because the airliner was registered in Malaysia, the Malaysian government has a final say on the search's future. Australia, Malaysia and China agree they won't relaunch the search until they have credible evidence pointing to the plane's exact location.

In this image from video, rescuers stand around coaches of a derailed passenger train in Kureru, Andhra Pradesh, southern India, Sunday, Jan. 22, 2017. Seven coaches were thrown off the tracks around midnight Saturday after a Hirakand Express train derailed, killing over 20 people.

ASIAN BRIEFS

China investigates former local Communist boss for bribery

BEIJING (AP)—Chinese authorities say they are investigating the former Communist Party chief and mayor of the port city of Tianjin for bribery. State media reported Sunday that Huang Xingguo is suspected of accepting bribes during his time leading Tianjin, a sprawling city of 15 million near Beijing. Huang was mayor when a massive explosion at a chemical storage warehouse in the city exploded, killing 173 people. The state-run Xinhua News Agency on Sunday did not immediately link his arrest to the explosion, though other high-ranking officials in Tianjin have also faced investigations in the wake of the accident. Huang was expelled from the Communist Party earlier this month.

Death toll from Pakistan tribal region blast at 25

PESHAWAR, Pakistan (AP)—A Pakistani government official says the death toll from a bomb blast in the Kurram tribal region has risen to 25 after three injured people died overnight. Shahid Khan, an assistant tribal administrator, said Sunday an

investigation revealed that 12 kilograms (26.5 pounds) of explosives improvised with steel balls were used in the bombing. The attack took place in the crowded fruit and vegetable market in the Shiite dominated town of Parachinar near the Afghan border on Saturday. Khan said more than 50 wounded were still being treated, some in critical condition. Khan said some vendors were detained for questioning.

12 people dead after central China landslide

BEIJING (AP)—Authorities in China say they've recovered the bodies of 12 people killed inside a hotel overrun by a landslide. State media reported Sunday that rescuers were able to pull out everyone trapped underneath rocks and debris after the Friday night landslide in Hunan province. The official Xinhua News Agency said 3,000 cubic meters (105,000 cubic feet) of debris tumbled down a slope behind the three-story hotel in Nanzhang county. The largest rock weighed 150 tons. The amount of debris hampered rescuers worried about the rocks caving in or sliding further. The cause of the collapse remains under investigation. Rescuers ear-

lier had pulled five survivors from the debris, two of whom died in a hospital.

Philippine protesters ask Duterte to stay away from Trump

MANILA, Philippines (AP)—Left-wing and Muslim activists urged Philippine President Rodrigo Duterte in a noisy protest to keep his promise of charting a foreign policy independent of America by staying away from Donald Trump who after he is sworn in as president on Friday. The more than 200 protesters burned a U.S. flag near the U.S. Embassy in Manila and called for an end to the presence of American troops in the country. They held up signs, including one that read "Donald Trump don't mess with the Philippines." The protesters said they find Trump more alarming than Barack Obama because of his offensive remarks against immigrants and Muslims. Duterte blasted Obama for criticizing his deadly crackdown against illegal drugs but congratulated Trump in a phone call. He sent his national security adviser and press secretary to attend Trump's inauguration. Troops prevented the activists from getting close to the U.S. Embassy's main gate.

World

Search intensifies for 23 missing in Italian avalanche

FARINDOLA, Italy (AP)—The strain showed on Fabio Salzetta's face.

The maintenance worker at the luxury Hotel Rigopiano who escaped being buried under the deadly avalanche because he had gone to check the boiler told Italian media Saturday that he called for hours to find survivors, but no one responded. The scene, he said, "felt like it was a dream. It was a nightmare."

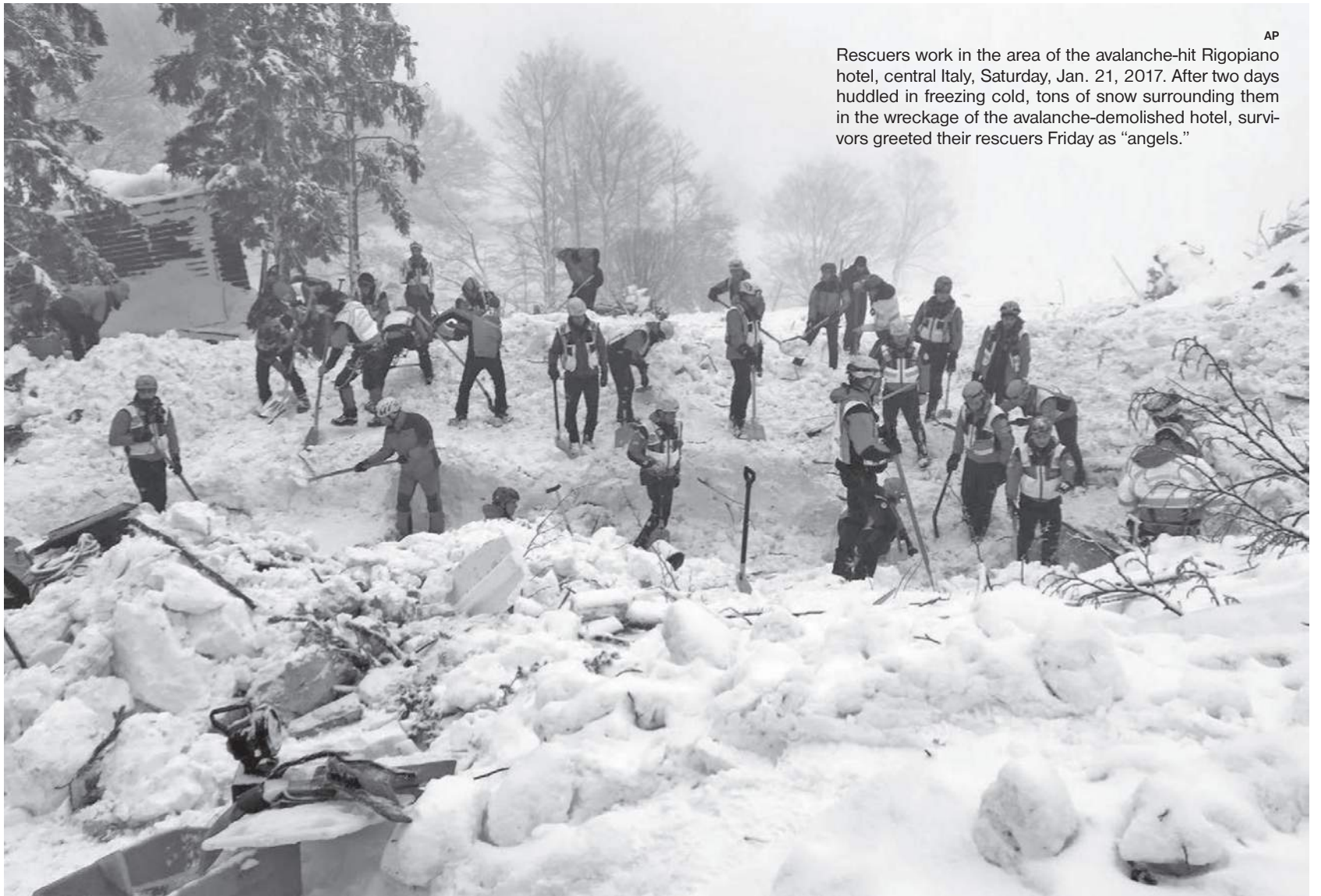
One of the people buried inside, and among the 23 still missing, is his sister. His voice shaking, he said he last saw her in the kitchen.

Five people have been confirmed killed, including two hotel waiters, while nine, including four children who had been on family vacations, have been pulled alive from the reinforced concrete structure buried beneath as many as eight meters of snow last Wednesday.

Doctors at the hospital in Pescara said one of the adults underwent surgery for a crushed arm, and was in fair condition, but that all of the other patients were doing well. The children were being moved from intensive care to the pediatric ward.

Buoyed by the rescues on Friday, more than two days after the disaster, search crews were intensifying their round-the-clock operation, fighting against the clock and deteriorating weather conditions including fresh snowfall and freezing temperatures.

"The research is difficult also because the site is in a precarious equilibrium, that's why the interventions are made very carefully and why we cannot intervene with big machin-



Rescuers work in the area of the avalanche-hit Rigopiano hotel, central Italy, Saturday, Jan. 21, 2017. After two days huddled in freezing cold, tons of snow surrounding them in the wreckage of the avalanche-demolished hotel, survivors greeted their rescuers Friday as "angels."

eries risking to modify a very vulnerable situation," said Titti Postiglione of Italy's civil protection agency.

Instead, workers pushed ahead using saws, shovels and gloved hands, listening for any sounds that might suggest more survivors.

Dozens of friends and family members kept vigil at the hospital, some growing frustrated

at the lack of news.

In one family, elation that 9-year-old Edoardo Di Carlo had survived in good condition was tempered by news that his mother, Nadia Aconciamezza, a nurse in the nearby town of Penne, was among the dead. The toll also includes two waiters at the hotel, Gabriele di Angelo and Alessandro Giancaterino.

Postiglioni said the high number of people still missing was giving impetus to the search. They include Di Carlo's father and the parents of 6-year-old Samuel Di Michelangelo.

The search included sending sound-sensitive instruments

down into snow-crusted debris. Rescuers passed crates full of chunks of hardened snow and ice to colleagues as they tried to penetrate deeper into the wreckage, creating the rough equivalent of elevator shafts to allow searchers to descend into the smashed hotel.

Searchers also used devices that could pick up any electronic waves emitted by cell phones of the missing, said Walter Milan, a spokesman for the alpine rescuers.

That voices haven't been heard lately doesn't mean no one is still alive, he said, explaining "we know that thick

walls and snow isolates" possible voices.

Because of the continued avalanche risk, escape routes were planned for rescue crews and each participant was equipped with a tracking device in case they were buried under the snow.

Snowfall higher than 3 meters (10 feet) thwarted the arrival of heavy equipment like cranes, said rescue spokesman Marco Bini, leaving the searchers to often rely on their hands or simple snow shovels to make progress.

Salzetta has been spending time at the hotel rescue opera-

tion advising crews on the hotel's layout and guests' possible locations.

Talking to reporters as he left the area, he recalled that the guests had gathered to go home, some shaken by the four quakes that day, but their departure was stymied by heavy snowfall that had made the road out impassable.

"In the end, they were calm. No one imagined that something like this could happen, after all the earthquakes that there have been," Salzetta said.

The last thing he remembers of that night: "The snow. Everything snow."

Gambia's defeated leader leaves country, ends standoff

BANJUL, Gambia (AP)—Gambia's defeated leader Yahya Jammeh and his family headed into political exile Saturday night, ending a 22-year reign of fear and a post-election political standoff that threatened to provoke a regional military intervention when he clung to power.

As he mounted the stairs to the plane, he turned to the crowd, kissed his Quran and waved one last time to supporters, including soldiers who cried at his departure.

The flight came almost 24 hours after Jammeh announced on state television he was ceding power to the newly inaugurated Adama Barrow, in response to mounting international pressure for his ouster.

Though tens of thousands of Gambians had fled the country

during his rule, Jammeh supporters flocked to the airport to see him walk the red carpet to his plane. Women shouted: "Don't go! Don't go!"

Jammeh landed in Guinea an hour later. He and his family then took off for Malabo, the capital of Equatorial Guinea, according to an airport official who spoke on condition of anonymity because the official was not authorized to speak to the press. Equatorial Guinea, unlike Guinea, is not a state party to the International Criminal Court.

"What is fundamental here is he will live in a foreign country as of now," Barrow told The Associated Press earlier Saturday.

Barrow won the December elections, but Jammeh contested the results.

WORLD BRIEFS

Mexico's Pena Nieto, Trump speak by phone, to meet Jan. 31
MEXICO CITY (AP)—Mexican President Enrique Pena Nieto and U.S. President Donald Trump spoke by phone Saturday and are scheduled to meet later this month, officials announced. White House Press Secretary Sean Spicer said the meeting would take place Jan. 31, and Trump and Pena Nieto are to discuss trade, immigration and security. Pena Nieto's office issued a statement saying the phone conversation happened in the morning. It said

he congratulated Trump on his inauguration and expressed willingness to work for the benefit of both countries "with a focus on respect for the sovereignty of both nations and shared responsibility." Pena Nieto also reiterated his interest in maintaining dialogue. A high-level Mexican delegation is scheduled to hold talks with Trump administration officials in Washington Jan. 25-26. Trump has promised to build a wall along the United States' southern border and make Mexico pay for it. He has also threatened some companies with a border tariff on products

manufactured in Mexico and exported to the United States.

Blast in camp for displaced Syrians near Jordan kills 6

BEIRUT (AP)—A large explosion rocked a camp for displaced Syrians along the Syrian-Jordanian border Saturday, killing at least six, and wounding many others, opposition activists said. The explosion near the border came despite the fragile Dec. 30 cease-fire, sponsored by Russia and Turkey who back opposite sides of the conflict. Syria continues to be beset by

violence, including clashes between government forces and rebel fighters as well as a number of offensives against Islamic State militants in the country. Talks between government officials, rebel representatives and attended by Russian, Turkish and U.N. officials are scheduled Monday in the Kazakh capital, Astana, to discuss reinforcing the cease-fire and ensuring humanitarian access. Some rebel factions have agreed to send representatives, but the al-Qaida-linked Fatah al-Sham Front slammed the talks Saturday as a "conspiracy."

Focus

Crossing red lines: What's annoying Asian nations most?

AP
In this July 14, 2016, file photo, Marcopolo Tam, a member of a pro-China business group in Hong Kong, points to what is now known as the Spratly Islands in the South China Sea on a Japanese World War II era map purporting to support China's claims to vast parts of the South China Sea, in Hong Kong. China has been irked over recent U.S. comments on the South China Sea, particularly its building of man-made islands equipped with airstrips and military defenses. Despite the construction, Beijing intensely dislikes accusations of militarizing the sensitive region, which it claims virtually in its entirety. However, the issue appears significantly less volatile now than last summer, when China was incensed by an international arbitration ruling invalidating its maritime claims.

How can you get under the skin of an Asian country? Diplomatic body searches, bomber flights, shrine statues and even doormats have set governments on edge.

Here's a nation-by-nation look at Asia's figurative, and in one case literal, sacred cows:

SOUTH KOREA

South Korea takes offense first, and most regularly, with Japan, largely over disputes stemming from Tokyo's 35-year colonization of the Korean Peninsula in the early 20th century.

But President Donald Trump has proven surprisingly good at pushing buttons in Seoul in recent months.

During his campaign, Trump suggested that the United States would let South Korea defend itself from North Korean aggression if Seoul didn't pay more for the stationing of 28,500 American troops in the country. He also described a 2012 bilateral free trade agreement that was portrayed as a major landmark as killing American jobs.

Fewer or no U.S. boots on the ground and calls for renegotiating the trade accord would raise serious questions for many in South Korea about the decadeslong military alliance between the countries that was forged in the bloodshed of the Korean War.

And then there's Seoul's northern rival. North Korean leader Kim Jong Un staged two nuclear tests and a string of ballistic missile test-firings last year. There's always the fear a direct attack like the deadly 2010 shelling of a South Korean island. Another attack will

likely trigger retaliatory strikes by the South, which has grown tired of Pyongyang's repeated provocations.

Japan regularly infuriates Seoul when senior politicians visit a shrine that honors war dead including convicted criminals; when Tokyo renews claims to disputed islets; and when officials approve history textbooks that Seoul believes whitewash Japan's wartime aggression

INDIA

Indians have long been known as a touchy bunch, so much so the makers of last year's blockbuster sequel "Independence Day 2" reportedly excluded all Indian landmarks from the scenes of mayhem and devastation wrought by the movie's invading aliens.

In some cases, Indians have been so easily offended that it's taken everyone else by surprise, such as when a superbug discovered in New Delhi was named after the Indian capital, or when an Indian diplomat was subjected to a routine body search when arrested in 2013 for allegedly mistreating her Indian maid in New York City.

When the world was celebrating the 2012 discovery of the Higgs boson particle, some Indians griped that all the credit was going to British physicist Peter Higgs while the world was ignoring Indian scientist Satyendranath Bose whose work in the 1920s helped define the subatomic boson particle named after him.

In recent years, many in Hindu-dominated India have been perceived to be intolerant of criticism against Prime Minister Narendra Modi as well as their religion. Self-appointed "cow vigilantes" have attacked

villagers suspected of killing cows, considered sacred in Hinduism and yet a vital source of income for many Muslims. When former President Barack Obama in 2015 urged greater tolerance and harmony in India's multicultural society, he was widely derided for taking a shot at India's dignity.

Last week, Amazon.com Inc. pulled doormats depicting the Indian flag from its Canadian retail website after the Indian External Affairs Minister Sushma Swaraj threatened to deny Indian visas to Amazon employees if the company did not apologize and withdraw the product.

Protests erupted a year ago after doormats depicting Hindu gods were sold online. There were also reports that India's independence leader Mohandas K. Gandhi was featured on flip-flops in what many Indians view as disrespectful.

British rock band Coldplay triggered anger with a music video on India that showed stereotypical images of the country with Hindu holy men, peacocks and colorful festivals. Critics argued that it ignored the vast changes in the country following the economic boom that has transformed the face of Indian cities and towns.

In 2008, Danny Boyle's multiple-Oscar winning film, "Slumdog Millionaire" also faced similar criticism for its portrayal of poverty and corruption in India.

CHINA

No issue is perhaps more sensitive and important to China than the status of Taiwan and Trump thrust the issue into the spotlight weeks before his inauguration by taking a congratulatory phone call from the

island's president.

That led Beijing to reiterate the one-China principle that has underpinned China-U.S. relations since they were normalized in 1979. While China is keeping its powder dry for now, further moves to bestow legitimacy on the island's government or offer it big arms packages and other forms of support would like draw a furious response.

China has also been irked over recent U.S. comments on the South China Sea, particularly its building of man-made islands equipped with airstrips and military defenses. Despite the construction, Beijing intensely dislikes accusations of militarizing the sensitive region, which it claims virtually in its entirety. However, the issue appears significantly less volatile now than last summer, when China was incensed by an international arbitration ruling invalidating its maritime claims.

Economic concerns remain foremost for the leadership and officials have responded to complaints from Trump and others over alleged unfair trade practices by again arguing against restrictions on the export of sensitive U.S. technologies, along with growing negative sentiment against Chinese investment in economies overseas that keep companies such as communications giant Huawei out of the U.S. market.

And as always, China is prone to lash out against all criticism of its policies toward political dissidents and ethnic minorities in Tibet and Xinjiang.

NORTH KOREA

Although just about anything

that the United States does can be counted on to push North Korea's buttons—and be used by the regime to whip up popular anti-U.S. sentiment—one thing the U.S. has started doing with more regularity lately hit an especially sore nerve.

Because of the massive, wide-scale destruction caused by bombing during the Korean War, which essentially flattened the very vulnerable Pyongyang, flights by U.S. long-range bombers like the B-52 not only get the regime's attention but do seem to cause genuine anger and anxiety.

Such flights have become a more common response following North Korean nuclear tests or other military activities seen by Washington as particularly provocative. They have the added benefit of reassuring American allies Japan and South Korea, but at the same time underscore the vast gap in perceptions between the United States, where the 1950-53 fighting on the Korean Peninsula is known as the "forgotten war," and in North Korea, where it was a defining an extremely brutal chapter in the nation's history.

AUSTRALIA

Australia's hard-line stance on asylum seekers has frayed ties with its neighbor and close ally Indonesia, and drawn global condemnation from human rights groups. Under Australia's policies, asylum seekers from Asia, the Middle East and Africa who arrive by boat, usually from Indonesian ports, are sent to grim detention camps in remote Pacific island nations and are refused settlement in Australia. Any boats intercepted at sea are turned back or sunk, with their passengers and

crews sent to Indonesia in life boats. The turn-back policy has caused friction with Indonesia, which was especially rankled after reports emerged that the Australian navy paid people smugglers to return a boat of migrants to Indonesian waters.

JAPAN

A "comfort women" statue is currently the hottest button between Japan and South Korea.

The statue of an anonymous Asian-faced girl is supposed to represent all the women across Asia and from The Netherlands who were the victims of sexual abuses by Japanese wartime military. It is part of Seoul's campaign to gain global sympathy for its suffering under the Japanese colonial rule, just as Japan has increasingly pushed back from its earlier recognition of responsibility.

Also reflecting Seoul's deep-rooted colonial-era enmity is a statue of South Korean patriot Ahn Jung-Geun, who assassinated Japan's former top official in Korea, Hirobumi Ito, in 1909.

Then there are islands. Japan's Foreign Minister Fumio Kishida described as "unacceptable" the use of the South Korean name for disputed islands in the official website for the 2018 Pyeongchang Olympics.

The website introduces the islets as Dokdo, while Japan refers to them as Takeshima. The website also refers to the waters that Japan calls Sea of Japan under the South Korean name, East Sea.

In China, a memorial hall of Nanjing that highlights the 1937 massacre by Japanese troops is a thorny issue that still divides the view between the two sides. (AP)

Health & Fitness

Can breakfast help keep us thin? Nutrition science is tricky

NEW YORK (AP)—Cereal makers have happily encouraged the belief that eating breakfast can help keep us thin and bring other benefits, partly by paying for studies that seem to support the idea.

So, does that mean breakfast is bad for you? Not that either. What it does show is how difficult it can be to sort the hype from reliable dietary advice when studies are funded by the makers of Froot Loops, nutrition science is often inconclusive, and gray areas can be spun for marketing.

Take Special K. In the 1990s, Special K boxes featured findings that people who didn't normally eat breakfast lost more weight after they started doing so.

"That was the little piece they put on the cereal box," said David Schlundt, a co-author of the study of about 50 women. Not mentioned on those boxes: Regular breakfast eaters who started skipping the meal lost even more weight, compared to those who stuck with their routines.

That doesn't mean particular breakfasts can't help some people control their appetites, or bring other benefits like energy. Schlundt's study was tiny. But it shows how easy it is to simplify the complexities and limitations of nutrition science and cherry-pick the findings.

Our understanding of what's healthy can evolve, which is why dietary guidelines are regularly updated

to reflect the latest science. A recommendation that breakfast can help with weight control—inserted in 2010—is no longer in the guidelines. With its last update, the government says it looked at broader eating patterns.

A look at some research around breakfast and weight illustrates why advice about it is so tricky.

"WHITE HAT" BIAS

To investigate the long-held idea that breakfast can prevent weight gain, researchers in 2013 reviewed dozens of studies examining the premise. Their conclusion: Popular opinion outweighed the scientific evidence.

A major issue they identified was that studies often misleadingly used language to indicate that breakfast influenced weight, even though the findings did not establish a cause-and-effect relationship. Like a lot of nutrition research, the studies drew links between physical traits and what people said they ate.

"It goes back to the idea that correlation doesn't equal causation," said Andrew Brown, one of the researchers who conducted the analysis. Brown, a nutrition scientist at the University of Alabama at Birmingham, noted that it could be that heavier people were skipping breakfast in hopes of losing weight.

When citing past studies, scientists also tended to mischaracterize inconclusive results in favor of breakfast.

1 in four American men said to have cancer-linked HPV genital infections

CHICAGO (AP)—The first national estimate suggests that nearly half of U.S. men have genital infections caused by a sexually transmitted virus and that 1 in 4 has strains linked with several cancers.

Most human papillomavirus infections cause no symptoms and most disappear without treatment. And most adults will get an HPV infection at some point in their lives.

But high-risk HPV can cause cancer in the mouth and upper throat, cervical cancer in women and other cancers. Less harmful strains can cause genital warts.

Vaccines can prevent infections but experts say vaccination rates in pre-teens and young adults are too low. High-risk HPV poses cancer risks to people who are infected and to their sexual partners, who can catch HPV even when the infections are silent.

The study "just underscores that you need to vaccinate boys as well as girls," said Debbie Saslow, an HPV specialist at the American Cancer Society.

The new estimate comes from an analysis of a 2013-14 national health survey; nearly 2,000 men aged 18 to 59 were tested for HPV. Results were published Thursday in the journal JAMA Oncology. The researchers say it's the first published estimate for genital HPV infections in men. The 45 percent rate is higher than previously reported rates for women, said Dr. Jasmine Han, the lead author and a cancer specialist at Womack Army Medical Center at Fort Bragg, North Carolina.

HPV virus can also be found in the mouth at much lower rates in men and women. The new study involved only genital HPV.



This Feb. 1, 2012, file photo shows Kellogg's cereal products in Orlando, Fla.

Brown chalked that up to "white hat" bias, since people are constantly told breakfast is "the most important meal of the day."

Brown also noted that "breakfast" can consist of any number of possibilities, whether it's cold pizza, yogurt

or an egg sandwich.

It's possible to question all sorts of dietary ideas. A study published last month, for instance, said the science behind recommendations to limit sugar was weak. That study drew criticism from health advocates because it was paid for by an industry group that includes Coke and Hershey—but it underscored the vulnerability of dietary recommendations.

IN CELEBRATION OF HIS NEW LIFE

† Pedro Babauta Camacho

BORN TO LIFE: DECEMBER 7, 1945 CALLED TO ETERNAL LIFE: JANUARY 16, 2017

In his new life, he now joins his:

Mother and Father: †Nicolasa Babauta & †Juan N. Camacho
Mother and Father-in-Law: †Esteban & †Carmen Reyes; †Francisco & †Dolores Cruz; †Felix & †Dora Laoyan
Wives: †Maria Elisa Reyes Camacho & †Dolores Cruz Camacho
Brothers/Sisters & In-Law: †Regina C. & †Jose Terlaje (Children), †Juan B. & †Maria S. Camacho (Children), †Antonia C. & †Manuel Sablan (Daughter), †Antonio B. & †Remedio S. Camacho, †Pedro B. Camacho, †Soledad B. Camacho, †Rita B. Camacho, †Marilou L. Camero, †Maximo C. Cruz (Son), †Juan C. Cruz (Daughter), †Daniel Cruz, †William S. Reyes, †Manuel S. Reyes.
Son: †Pedro Camacho, Jr.

And will forever be remembered in the hearts and lives of his:

Wife: Jeannette Laoyan Camacho

Children and their families:

- **Evonne C.** & Lee Cabrera (Matthew/Micaela & Children, Maria, Prudencio, Martha Lee)
- **Sylvan R.** & Frances A. Camacho (Tanya & Taelani)
- **Geraldine C.** & Diego Villagomez (Valerie/Maximo & Children, Jordan & Children, Lisa/Kieran & Children, Jack John/Stephanie, Isabel, Jean Nailen, Geridj)
- **Daisie Mae C.** & Lawrence Junior Renguul (Tristan/Kimberly & son, Lance)
- **June Nickie C.** & Joe Mapusua (Okalani)
- **April Ling C. Lafary** (Jovan, Aleina, Jacob)
- **Jude Peter C.** & Zaidel Camacho (Jaydon Jude, Jonathan, Zaira, Jude Peter II)
- **Paul L.** & Melva Bulagay (Shaun & Saquila)

Brother: Jose B. & Jessica P. Camacho & Children
Brothers & Sisters-in-Law:

- Raymond S. & Marakita Reyes & Children
- Juan S. & Florentina Reyes & Children
- Esteban S. & Yolanda Reyes & Children
- David S. Reyes & Children
- Edward S. Reyes & Children
- George & Florence R. Fleming & Children
- Diana R. & Joseph Sasamoto & Children
- Lillian S. Reyes & Children
- Virginia S. Reyes & Children
- Andrew S. Reyes
- Richard S. Reyes & Children
- Helen B. Cruz & Children
- Anne Cruz & Mike Blas & Children
- Antonio C. & Ignacia Cruz & Children
- Basilio & Erlinda L. Aspong & Children
- Romy & Jane L. Aquirre & Children
- Leonardo & Rose Ann Laoyan & Children
- Wilfredo Laoyan & Children
- Armando & Annalyn L. Macrohon & Children
- Edwin & Dorothy L. Acong & Children
- Ronnie Laoyan

Nightly Mass of the Christian Eucharist is being offered at 6:00pm and rosary follows immediately after at San Roque Church, Saipan.

Funeral Service will be held on Tuesday, January 24, 2017. Our Beloved †Pedro will be escorted from Nuestra Senora dela Paz Memorial Chapel to San Roque Church at 7:30am followed by Responso Service and Holy Rosary at 8:00am.

Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated at 11:00am and Interment Service will follow at San Roque Cemetery where he will be at a peaceful rest.

He will also be greatly missed by his God-Children, numerous nieces & nephews, cousins, classmates and friends.

Thank you for your prayers,

Jeannette Laoyan Camacho, Children and Families

Life & Style

A-list celebs in force for anti-Trump women's marches

WASHINGTON (AP)—If you wondered where many of Hollywood's A-list celebrities had gone during President Donald Trump's inauguration, you didn't have to wonder any longer on Saturday, when scores of them showed up at huge women's marches in Washington and other cities to send the new president a pointed message that he was in for a fight—and that, as so many signs said, women's rights are human rights.

Madonna, Julia Roberts, Scarlett Johansson, Cher, Alicia Keys, Katy Perry, Emma Watson, Amy Schumer, Jake Gyllenhaal and feminist leader Gloria Steinem were just some of those at the march in Washington, where officials said the crowd could number more than half a million.

In New York, Helen Mirren, Cynthia Nixon and Whoopi Goldberg joined a crowd of protesters marching to Trump's home at Trump Tower. In Park City, Utah, where the Sundance Film Festival was underway, TV host



Actress Emma Watson sits in the crowd during the Women's March on Washington, Saturday, Jan. 21, 2017 in Washington. AP

she thought the new president would hear the message of the march, she replied: "I don't care what he's hearing. It's important what the people are hearing. He'll hear it, but he won't pay attention."

Actress Edie Falco, of "Sopranos" and "Nurse Jackie" fame, noted: "Everyone I know is here today."

"Nothing has ever felt this important in my lifetime," she said. "We're not just going to say, 'it's OK,'" she added of Trump's agenda. "Because it's not OK."

Actress America Ferrera told the thousands assembled that they were marching "for the moral core of this nation, against which our new president is waging a war. Our dignity, our character, our rights have all been under attack, and a platform of hate and division assumed power yesterday. But the president is not America. ... We are America, and we are here to stay."

The Washington march included plenty of men, too—some of them wearing "pussyhats" in solidarity. Among the performers were soul artist Maxwell and Janelle Monae.

"It's because of women that we're all here," Maxwell said. "I'm so happy to say that I was here for the women. This is one for the books."

Chelsea Handler was joined by Charlize Theron, Kristen Stewart and more. In Los Angeles, Miley Cyrus, Jamie Lee

Curtis, Demi Lovato and Jane Fonda were among tens of thousands protesting.

In the capital, a sea of pink, pointy-eared "pussyhats" mocking the new president stretched far and wide as Madonna took to the stage—and, to no one's surprise, held little back.

"Yes, I have thought an awful lot about blowing up the White House," she said. "But I know that this won't change anything. We cannot fall into despair." Instead, she called

for a "revolution of love."

The pop icon Cher, speaking in an interview backstage, said she hoped people could now mobilize against Trump the way they mobilized against the Vietnam War.

"I think people are more frightened than they've ever been," the 70-year-old singer said. "Everything that we gained, we're just watching slip away. It's not only one thing, it's everything—the progress that we made is all going away." Asked whether

Alec Baldwin's Trump wasn't on 'SNL,' but mock-Putin was

NEW YORK (AP)—Maybe Alec Baldwin was busy. Maybe "Saturday Night Live" figured viewers had seen plenty of President Donald Trump for real this inauguration weekend.

In any case, Baldwin's piercing Trump impersonation was absent for Saturday's edition, making way for cast

member Beck Bennett's shirtless portrayal of Russian leader Vladimir Putin.

In the NBC show's cold opening, mock-Putin addressed the audience as if to assure them that Trump's ascent is his, too.

"Yesterday, we all made Donald Trump the 45th president of the United States, and

today many of you are scared and marching in the streets," make-believe Putin said, then added, "Relax. I got this."

"Do I think your president's perfect?" he went on. "Perhaps not. But don't worry. I'll get him there."

"Remember," he said consolingly, "we're in this together."

Nielsen: 31 million viewers saw Trump's swearing-in

NEW YORK (AP)—Nielsen estimates 31 million viewers watched TV coverage of President Donald Trump's inauguration on Friday.

That audience total, measuring continuous coverage by 12 broadcast and cable networks, soundly beat the 20.6 million who viewed President Barack Obama's second inauguration in 2013. But a president's second swearing-in typically logs a drop-off in

viewership. Obama's first inauguration in 2009 was seen by 37.8 million people.

Fox News Channel was by far the most-watched network of all, cable or broadcast, with 8.43 million viewers. Cable rivals CNN had 2.46 million and MSNBC had 1.35 million.

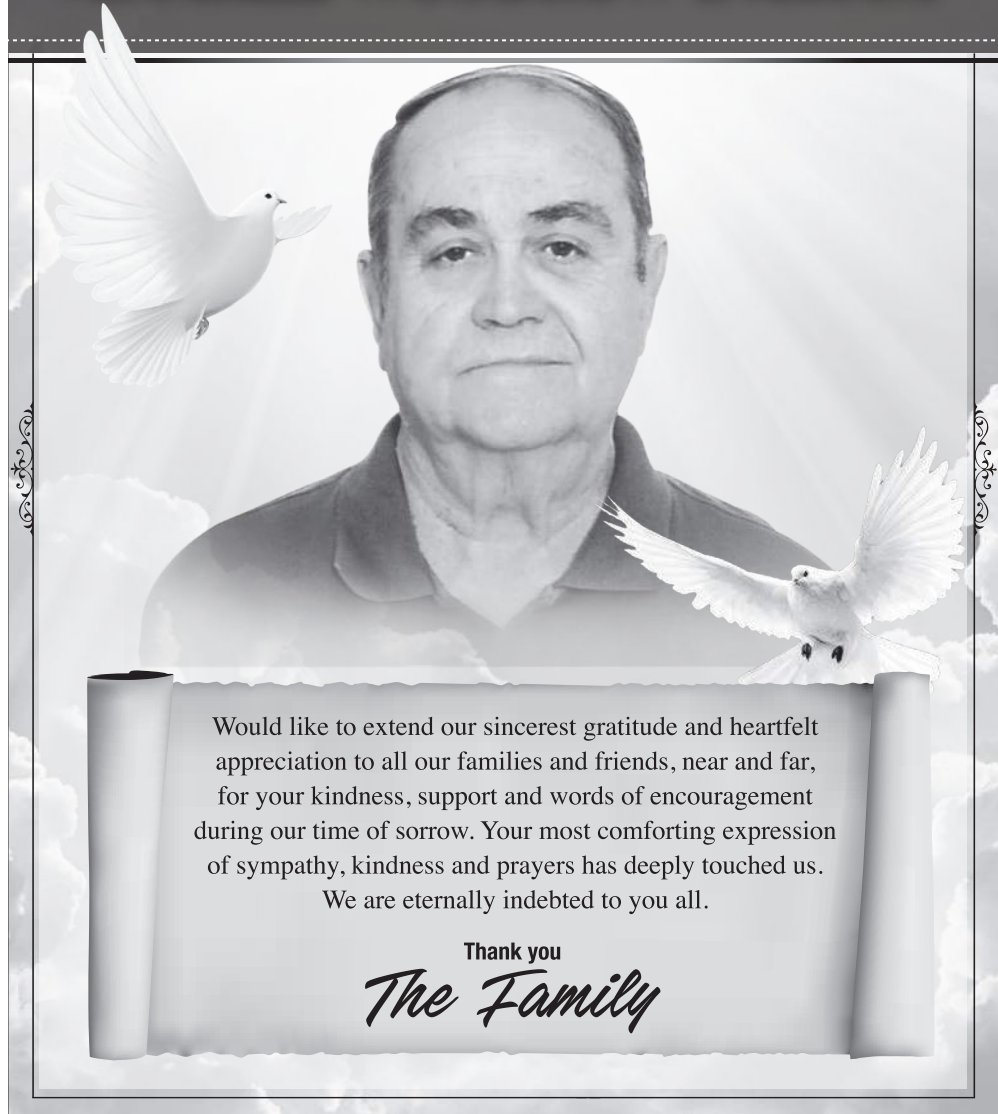
NBC was the most-watched broadcast network with 5.8 million viewers, followed by ABC (4.9 million) and CBS (4.6 million).

The most-watched inauguration since 1969 was President Ronald Reagan's first oath-taking in 1981, which was seen by 41.8 million people.

The debates between Trump and Hillary Clinton were watched by record numbers of viewers, with 84 million people tuning in to the highest-rated first debate in September 2016. However, daytime television has far fewer viewers than prime time.

In Humble Gratitude

†CHARLES WOODROW INGRAM



Would like to extend our sincerest gratitude and heartfelt appreciation to all our families and friends, near and far, for your kindness, support and words of encouragement during our time of sorrow. Your most comforting expression of sympathy, kindness and prayers has deeply touched us. We are eternally indebted to you all.

Thank you

The Family

'The Workers Cup' sheds light on migrant workers in Qatar

PARK CITY, Utah (AP)—Director Adam Sobel never intended to end up in Qatar, but it was 2010, jobs were scarce in the U.S. and his longtime girlfriend—now his wife—had just been offered a job teaching at a Northwestern University Qatar. So they went.

While there, Sobel found work with a local production company that did news stories and documentaries for outlets like BBC, CNN, and HBO. One particular story was requested frequently: That of the migrant workers who were building the facilities for the 2022 Qatar World Cup. He didn't know it at the time, but the assignment would ultimately provide the foundation for his documentary, "The Workers Cup," which premiered Thursday night at the Sundance Film Festival.

"Because the subject is so sensitive and because media restrictions were so significant, we either had to hide people's identities or work undercover. The human touch was lost," Sobel said. "We wanted to do something that went much deeper than that and really honored the workers for their sacrifices and their hopes and their

dreams rather than doing something that just saw them as victims ... I wanted to build empathy for the workers instead of sympathy."

The film centers on the multinational men, from Kenya, Ghana, India and the Philippines, who have given their lives over to slavery-like contracts and dangerous conditions to build the stadiums from the ground up. One man, Kenneth, who was a soccer player in Ghana, shares his story about how a recruiter had told him that if he came to Qatar, he'd get a club soccer contract. It was a lie, and now he's stuck in Qatar under horrific circumstances.

"We've had a lot of context about how the recruiting agents are selling a false bill of goods but certainly I didn't expect that to be wrapped up in a professional soccer contract," Sobel said.

The title of the documentary refers to the FIFA-sponsored "workers cup" whereby teams from different construction companies play against one another in a tournament. For men like Kenneth, it takes on a greater poignancy. Yes, it's a welcome distraction from the conditions, but the fact remains that they are still stuck there.



ICONIC AMERICANA

President-elect Donald Trump gives a thumbs-up as first lady Michelle Obama and Melania Trump talk at the White House in Washington, Friday, Jan. 20, 2017. Incoming first lady Melania Trump wore a sky-blue cashmere jacket and mock turtleneck dress by Ralph Lauren, the brand that designed so many Hillary Clinton pantsuits, on Inauguration Day. "It was important to us to uphold and celebrate the tradition of creating iconic American style for this moment," Lauren's company said in a statement. For night, the new first lady wore ivory, in an off-the-shoulder gown by Herve Pierre, former creative director of Carolina Herrera, and first daughter Ivanka Trump wore a sparkling, blush-tone gown by Herrera, Women's Wear Daily reported. On Friday morning, Mrs. Trump's hair was in a soft updo and she wore long, sky-blue suede gloves and matching stilettos as she and her husband were greeted at the White House by President Barack Obama and first lady Michelle Obama, the latter in a deep-red belted short-sleeve tweed dress by Jason Wu. It had black trim and a matching double-breasted coat.

AP

Trump's children revel in first 24 hours in White House

WASHINGTON (AP)—Backstage photos from the black-tie inaugural balls. A quick peek out the Truman Balcony to admire the view of Washington. A visit to the basement White House bowling alley.

President Donald Trump's grown children and their families have reveled in the first hours as the first family and have enthusiastically docu-

mented it all on social media.

The Trumps' Twitter and Instagram accounts reveal much of the Trump clan is as comfortable with social media as its patriarch. Each of the grown children tracked their historic day as many Americans would—one post at a time.

The build-up to the inauguration began days ago as daughter Tiffany Trump and

Lara Trump, who is married to Trump's son Eric, posted photos of themselves prepping for some of the week's black tie-events. Lara Trump included a caption that read "Dinner date" and a smiling face emoji.

Donald Trump Jr., the president's eldest child, documented much of his Inauguration Day on Instagram. He first posted a photo of his

family riding in a presidential limousine on the way to the U.S. Capitol on Friday. Later, he posted a video of him dancing with his wife, Vanessa, at a ball, and then for his nightcap, an encounter at the family's new Washington hotel with the cast of the reality show "Duck Dynasty" and a slightly disheveled Fox News personality Sean Hannity.

Ivanka Trump and her husband, Jared Kushner, a senior adviser to the president, chronicled her family's ride to the inaugural parade with an Instagram of the two of the couple's children secure in car seats rolling to the viewing stand. Each held a distraction in hand—one a tablet, the other a smartphone—a detail likely to earn knowing nods from many parents.

The Trump clan spent

Friday night at the White House, as Trump himself had promised in the days before. Ivanka and Jared were spotted snapping photos Saturday morning on the Truman Balcony.

Later, the Trumps tested out the bowling alley.

Donald Trump Jr. posted a video of his wife and children bowling in the lanes installed in the basement of the White House by President Richard Nixon in 1969.

Longtime family friend feels hurt by sulky teen's attitude

DEAR ABBY: I have had a best friend for more than 20 years. We met when we were 18 and have been inseparable ever since. I was best man in his wedding, and when his first child was born, I traveled six hours to be at the hospital when "Sara" was born. I have never missed a birthday or Christmas.

When my friend announced they were moving from Ohio to Arizona, I knew I couldn't be away from him and his family, so I moved as well. I have no family of my own, and I adore his two girls.

Well, Sara turned 13 this year and like most teenagers, she's distancing herself from her family and even more so from me. When her mom and dad invite me for dinner or a family get-together, she barely acknowledges me when I say hi or ask how she's doing. She wants nothing to do with me. It breaks my heart. I love her and I consider her to be family.

My question is, should I continue to go and support her with her sporting events at school? (I have never missed a game.) Do I continue to shower her with birthday and Christmas gifts?

On one hand, I tell myself this is just a phase she is going through and to change nothing, hoping one day she realizes that I'm her biggest cheerleader and recognizes the love I have for her. On the other hand, I think she's acting like a spoiled brat, and if she doesn't know how to treat people, then I want nothing

to do with her. How should I handle this?

UN-UNCLE IN ARIZONA

DEAR UN-UNCLE: I am sure what you are feeling isn't any different than what Sara's parents are feeling right now. I agree that she is probably going through a phase and "just being a teenager." My advice is to give her some space and hope that when she finally pulls out of it she will recognize how lucky she is to have such a loving un-uncle. I'm keeping my fingers crossed for you.

■■■

DEAR ABBY: My sister and I are senior citizens with health problems, so we share an apartment to minimize expenses and to be sure someone is around if needed. My brother and his wife sometimes socialize with us.

The problem is, my brother has a friend. The friend and his wife constantly use foul language. I don't like hearing the F-bomb used as an everyday part of speech. I have tried modeling correct behavior and not cursing, but it hasn't worked. How can I ask them to stop without alienating them and losing my brother and his friend?

APPALLED IN NEW JERSEY

DEAR APPALLED: In recent decades there has been a coarsening of the language many individuals use on a daily

DEAR ABBY

By Abigail Van Buren
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.



basis, and it's regrettable. However, that doesn't mean you must listen to it and remain silent.

The next time it happens, tell your brother and his friends that when they use the F-bomb, it makes you and your sister uncomfortable and ask them to please refrain from dropping it when they are with you. That's not an unreasonable request, and it shouldn't alienate anyone.

■■■

Abby shares more than 100 of her favorite recipes in two booklets: "Abby's Favorite Recipes" and "More Favorite Recipes by Dear Abby." Send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for \$14 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Cookbooklet Set, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)

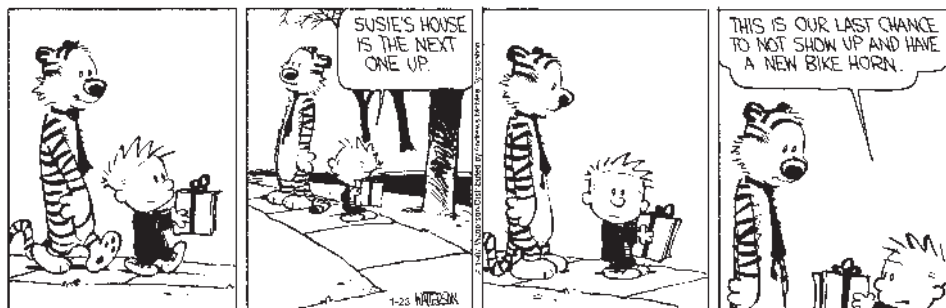
Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson

Garfield®

By Jim Davis

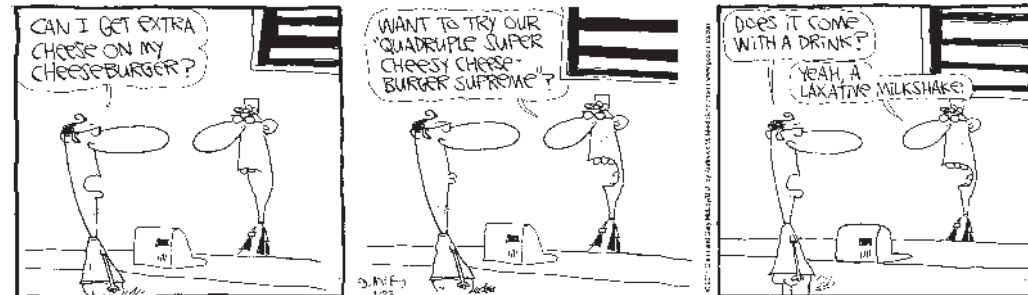


Adam@home

By Bryan Basset

The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy



CROSSWORD

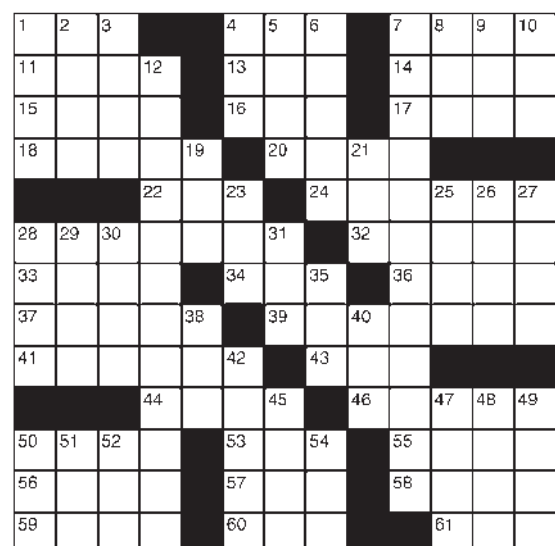
By Eugene Sheffer

- ACROSS**
- 1 Pledge
4 Pickle holder
7 Low-fat
11 Grand tale
13 Hearty quaff
14 Shoppe description
15 Nevada city
16 Wild bunch
17 Leak slowly
18 Witch craft?
20 Walrus tooth
22 "Krazy"
24 Flat-bottomed rowboats
28 Initially
32 Dental filling
33 Benefit
34 Melody
36 Profit
37 Alpha's opposite
39 Curl up cozily
41 Boot camp reply
- DOWN**
- 1 Part of speech
2 Abbr. on a phone
3 Drunkard
4 Gridlock
5 Oodles
6 Picture puzzle
7 Alice went through it
8 "Xanadu" band
9 Wood-shaping tool
10 Born
12 Food Network broadcasts
19 Scratch the surface?
21 Enjoy
23 Airport screening org.
25 Banner
26 Go belly up
27 "Auld Lang —"
28 "—"
29 Heavy reading?
30 Nemeses
31 Poetic contraction
35 ER workers
38 Goal
40 Popular card game
42 Majestic
45 Hot
47 Faux pas
48 Tittle
49 Leftovers recipe
50 Use a straw
51 Sugar suffix
52 Trail behind
54 Casual shirt

Solution time: 26 mins.



Friday's answer 1-23



STUMPED?

For answers to today's crossword, call 1-800-226-5955! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Tiffani Thiessen, 43; Mariska Hargitay, 53; Gail O'Grady, 54; Richard Dean Anderson, 67.

Happy Birthday: Explore new territory by using your imagination and being innovative and fearless. Implement greater detail and strive to be unique and respectable in the eyes of others. Stop thinking about the changes you want to make and put your plans into motion. Take strides to conquer whatever stands in your way. Engage in truth and expand your knowledge. Your numbers are 3, 10, 16, 20, 23, 32, 47.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Don't let impulsiveness take over. Use common sense and discuss problems openly. Look at both sides of a situation and you will find a workable solution. Putting the past behind you will help encourage new beginnings. ★★★★★

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Put on your thinking cap and look for a way to improve your qualifications or to gain greater self-awareness. If you can visualize what you want to do next, you can work toward making it happen. Don't give up; get going. ★★★★★

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Size up your situation and seize the moment. You cannot be and do everything for everyone, but you can show compassion and understanding while you proceed to do what's in your best interest. Don't follow the crowd—be the leader. ★★★★★

CANCER (June 21-July 22): You have choices, and with a little ingenuity and common sense, you will be able to out-

maneuver anyone trying to play emotional games with you. Don't fold under pressure. Live within your means. Follow your heart. Make romance a priority. ★★★★★

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Bring about change. Don't fear the unknown. Revel in learning as you go and showing how spirited you can be. Engage in pastimes that promise to broaden your mind, skills and your friendships. Embark on a new and lively future. ★★★★★

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Handle domestic matters and deal with children and seniors carefully. Offering help is one thing, but taking on more than you can handle will lead to criticism. Don't feel the need to bring about changes just to satisfy someone else's needs. ★★★★★

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Changes bring new beginnings. There is a lot to learn from the experiences you encounter. Dealing with people who can make a difference in your life is favored, so don't sit at home—get out and participate. ★★★★★

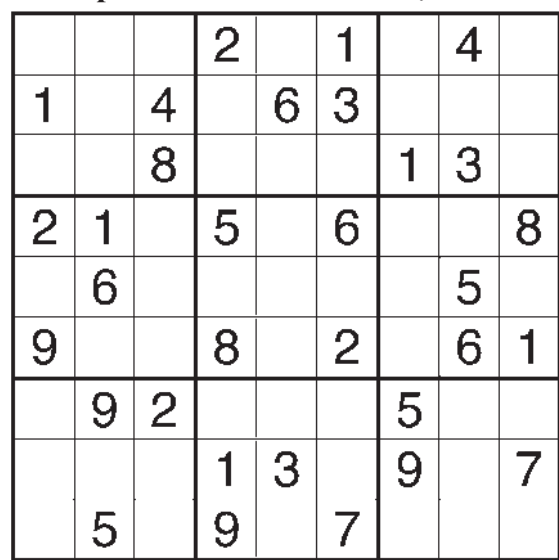
SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Get involved in activities or projects that make you think. Use your imagination and you will come up with marketable plans that could lead to greater prosperity. A passionate approach to life and love is encouraged. ★★★★★

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Keep an open mind, but don't be gullible. Ask questions and don't feel the need to take part in something if you have doubts or feel uncertain about the outcome. Protect your assets, possessions and your physical well-being. ★★★★★

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku

By Dave Green



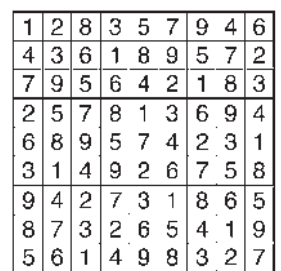
Difficulty Level ★

1/23

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Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Friday's SUDOKU Answer



Difficulty Level: ★★★★★

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): An open mind will lead to prosperous opportunities. Good fortune is within reach if you stand behind your decisions instead of following what someone else is doing. Staying grounded and using common sense will pay off. An old crush will tempt you. ★★★★★



AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Use your skills, attributes and knowledge innovatively. Bring about change and update your game plan by setting new trends and exploring unfamiliar possibilities. Your ability to be a forerunner and convince others to see your vision will lead to success. ★★★★★



PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Don't misjudge someone with the potential to disrupt your plans. Emotional interference will leave you in an awkward position if you don't react quickly. Make sure to follow through with your plans and protect your reputation. ★★★★★

Birthday Baby: You are engaging, adventuresome and innovative. You are entertaining and popular.

Eugenia's website—eugenialast.com. Eugenia's android app @ <http://bit.ly/exhoro> and join Eugenia on [twitter](https://twitter.com/eugenialast)/[facebook](https://facebook.com/eugenialast)/[linkedin](https://linkedin.com/company/eugenialast).

WONDERWORD

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally and even backward. Find them, circle each letter of the word and strike it off the list. The leftover letters spell the WONDERWORD.

ALAN THICKE (1947-2016)

Solution: 9 letters

©2017 Andrew Wiles. www.wonderword.com. Download the Wonderword Game App! 1/23

Blank Check, Boat, Brennan, Brian, Callau, Camp, Canadian, Carter, Composer, Copper, Facts, Father, Fuller, Gina, Gloria, Growing Pains, Home, Host, House, Jason, Jeffrey, Joan, Joey, Kirkland Lake, Life, Live, Loring, Love, Mountain, Olivia, Ontario, Robin, Seaver, Shows, Sitcom, Skating, Snow, Sunshine, Tanya, Todd, Tolleson, William, Willis

Last Friday's Answer: Sesame Street

To purchase WONDERWORD books, visit www.WonderWordBooks.com, or call 1-800-642-6480.

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(1) Beautician

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 - (1) CATERING COORDINATOR
 - (8) BAKER
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Position: Scuba Diving Instructor (Self-Enrichment Educational Teachers) x1
Work Location: Garapan, Saipan & other diving sites in the CNMI.
Working Hours: Full-time (8hrs/day, 40hrs/week; Flex Time)
Wage: \$18.37/hr.; frequency= monthly; O.T.= X 1.5
Job Duties: Teach, instruct, and guide scuba diving activities to individuals or groups at public or private facilities. Explains & demonstrates the basic of scuba diving & teaches the proper use of diving equipments. Conduct certification classes to achieve proficiency in diving. May assist customers at Employer's outdoor sports retail shop, and do other related duties as assigned.
Requirements: Minimum 5 years of work experience as scuba diving instructor. Must be a PADI or NAUI certified, licensed Scuba Diving Instructor. Must be able to speak, read and write Japanese language enough to teach and instruct scuba diving to tourists and regulars from Japan, that dominate the nationality of the Company's customers.
Compensations: Workers' Compensation provided. Other compensations negotiable.

Please send your resume with a copy of your diving instructor license or your inquiry by email or e-mail to:
AQUA CONNECTIONS, INC.
E-mail aqua@pticom.com
Fax: (670) 233-3304

Office of the Public Auditor
Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
Website: <http://www.opacnmi.com>
1236 Yap Drive, Capitol Hill, Saipan, MP 96950

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

Opening Date: 1/16/17 Closing Date: 1/31/17

POSITION: Administrative Assistant
EXAMINATION ANNOUNCEMENT NO: OPA-17-001

For more information, please visit our website at www.opacnmi.com or come visit us at our office in Capitol Hill. Interested persons may also pick up a copy of the Examination Announcement at the Office of Personnel Management (OPM) in Gualo Rai.

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Legislative Bureau
NORTHERN MARIANAS COMMONWEALTH LEGISLATURE
P.O. BOX 500586, SAIPAN, MP 96950

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

Examination Announcement Number: LB-JVA-17-002 Position: Delegation Assistant
PL-UNGRADED: \$ 18,330.00 Annually Opening Date: January 18, 2017
The salary will be determined by the qualification of the appointee Closing Date: February 1, 2017

Location: Honorable Jesus P. Mafnas Memorial Building (CNMI Legislature), Capitol Hill, Saipan

General Duties:
Perform clerical, administrative and other office related functions, including answering telephone, receiving communications and disseminating same to appropriate recipients; preparing and sending fax transmittals; maintaining filing system; copying and distributing documents to members and legislative bureau staff; setting up appointments and schedules; timekeeping; records and transcribes sessions; initiating correspondence and perform other duties as assigned.

Qualifications and Requirements:

- Possess two years relevant work experience or a minimum of an AA or AS degree or higher from a United States accredited institution of higher education with one year of legislative work experience;
- Must have organizational skills and computer experience;
- Ability to produce results within limited time frames and work under pressure on a daily basis.

Education requirements may be substituted with related experience

Education and training claimed under item 19(A) through 19(E) of the Application for Employment must be substantiated by a copy of an official diploma and/or certificate. Failure to provide the required documents will result in automatic disqualification.

Employment application may be accessed at www.cnmileg.gov.mp or may be picked up at the Office of the Director of the Legislative Bureau located at the Honorable Jesus P. Mafnas Memorial Building (CNMI Legislature), Capitol Hill, Saipan. Completed application and police clearance may be submitted to the Office of the Director or may be mailed to the Office of the Director; Legislative Bureau; P.O. Box 500586; Saipan, MP 96950. No telephone inquiries.

Legislative Bureau
NORTHERN MARIANAS COMMONWEALTH LEGISLATURE
P.O. BOX 500586, SAIPAN, MP 96950

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

Examination Announcement Number: LB-JVA-17-001 Position: Fiscal Analyst
PL-UNGRADED: \$50,000.00 Annual Opening Date: January 18, 2017
The salary will be determined by the qualification of the appointee Closing Date: February 1, 2017
Location: Honorable Jesus P. Mafnas Memorial Building (CNMI Legislature), Capitol Hill, Saipan

General Duties:

- Conducts budget analysis, monitors agency and institution budgets, and prepares related reports;
- Provides information and assistance on the status of legislative proposals and measures, budgetary and fiscal practices, and prepares summaries and explanations of budget-related reports and proposed legislation;
- Provides assistance in analyzing departmental budget requests, including necessary documentation, investigation, and related budget impact studies;
- Provides technical assistance to the Legislature on cost-benefit analyses or fiscal reports on proposed legislation or current programs;
- Conducts fiscal and general research for Legislative Committees and for individual legislators, prepares reports and analysis on findings, and presents alternative solutions for consideration;
- Drafts bills, resolutions, reports, and amendments;
- Makes oral presentations and responds to questions regarding state budget and fiscal matters;
- When necessary, attends budget hearings, committee meetings, and legislative sessions; and
- Performs other duties as directed.

Qualifications and Requirements:

- Must possess a Bachelor's degree from an accredited college or university with a major in Public Administration, Business Administration, Accounting, Economics or related field with two years experience; or possess eight years of relevant work experience;
- Possess ample knowledge of the legislative process and the CNMI government budgeting process;
- Excellent research, analytical, and strong writing skills; and
- Ability to produce results within limited time frames and work under pressure on a daily basis.

Education requirements may be substituted with related experience

Education and training claimed under item 19(A) through 19(E) of the Application for Employment must be substantiated by a copy of an official diploma and/or certificate. Failure to provide the required documents will result in automatic disqualification.

Employment application may be accessed at www.cnmileg.gov.mp or may be picked up at the Office of the Director of the Legislative Bureau located at the Honorable Jesus P. Mafnas Memorial Building (CNMI Legislature), Capitol Hill, Saipan. Completed application and police clearance may be submitted to the Office of the Director or may be mailed to the Office of the Director; Legislative Bureau; P.O. Box 500586; Saipan, MP 96950. No telephone inquiries.

WHATZIT Solution: Play on words

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Classified Ads

Ads must be submitted before 12 noon 2 days prior to publication date

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Classified Ads

Cancellations should be made before 12 noon of the day prior to date of publication.

REFUNDS

Refunds will only be made if cancellation deadlines are met. No refunds will be made once ad is already printed.

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Saipan Tribune will not be responsible for errors after the first day of publication. Errors should be called in before noon of the issue date. Saipan Tribune reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

ADVERTISING POLICY

All advertising in the Saipan Tribune are subject to applicable rate sheet, copies of which are available from the Advertising Sales Department (please call 235-8747, 235-2769 or 235-6397). All ads will be subject to approval prior to publication. We reserve the right to edit, refuse, reject or cancel any ad at any time. Also, Saipan Tribune reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

Find the familiar phrase, saying or name in this arrangement of letters.

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www.facebook.com/dingbatgames

Find today's solution in classified section

Leonard scores 41, Spurs down Cavaliers 118-115 in OT



CLEVELAND (AP)—Kawhi Leonard scored a career-high 41 points, LaMarcus Aldridge had 16 points and 12 rebounds, and the San Antonio Spurs beat the Cleveland Cavaliers 118-115 in overtime Saturday night despite missing starters Tony Parker and Pau Gasol.

Leonard scored six in OT, including a game-sealing dunk with 4.9 seconds left, as the Spurs regrouped after a late collapse in regulation.

David Lee, making a rare start in place of the injured Gasol, added 14 points as San Antonio improved to 18-4 on the road.

LeBron James and Kyrie Irving scored 29 apiece for the Cavs, who had the last shot in regulation and had plenty of opportunities in the extra five minutes. Cleveland still had a chance to tie it in the final second of overtime, but Kevin Love missed a 3-pointer.

Bulls 102, Kings 99

In Chicago, Dwyane Wade had 30 points and two key steals in the final minute, Jimmy Butler added 23 points and the Chicago Bulls overcame a 42-point performance by DeMarcus Cousins for a victory over the Sacramento Kings.

Wade, who had 13 points in the fourth quarter, snapped a 99-all tie by making a free throw with 14 seconds left. He had missed a breakaway dunk after making a steal, but Cousins was called for a foul for putting his hand on Wade's hip as he tried to dunk the ball.

On the next Kings possession, Wade came up with another steal and fed Michael Carter-Williams for a breakaway basket to seal the win.

Cousins was 16 for 28 from the field, including 2 for 7 on 3-pointers, and added 14 rebounds.

Trail Blazers 127, Celtics 123, OT

In Boston, Damian Lillard had a three-point play with 47 seconds left in overtime and finished with 28 points to lift Portland over Boston, snapping its four-game losing streak.

CJ McCollum scored 35 points to lead Portland, which lost in the closing seconds in Philadelphia on Friday night. Lillard added seven assists.

Isaiah Thomas led Boston with 41 points, his 14th time this season with 30 or more points. Marcus Smart and Al Horford each scored 17 for the Celtics, who have lost two straight after winning 13 of 16.

Rockets 119, Grizzlies 95

In Memphis, Tennessee, Sam Dekker scored a career-high 30 points, James Harden added 29 points and 10 assists and Houston leaned on its usual 3-point offense to beat Memphis.

Eric Gordon added 21 points as the Rockets built the lead to as many as 20 in the fourth quarter before easily coasting home.

Dekker, making his first career start in place of the ill Ryan Anderson, made 12 of 19 shots, including 6 of 11 from outside the arc. Houston shot 51 percent overall and 38 percent from distance.

Marc Gasol scored 32 points and Mike Conley added 15 for the Grizzlies, who lost for the



third time in the last four.

Nuggets 123, Clippers 98

In Denver, Nikola Jokic scored 19 points and Denver beat short-handed Los Angeles.

Danilo Gallinari, Will Barton and Wilson Chandler added 18 points apiece for the

Nuggets, who have won four of their last five games.

The Clippers have lost two in a row since opening January with seven consecutive wins. They fell to 2-7 this season when they have been without both Chris Paul (thumb injury) and Blake Griffin (right knee).

Marreese Speights had 18

San Antonio Spurs' Kawhi Leonard (2) shoots over Cleveland Cavaliers' Tristan Thompson (13) in the first half of an NBA basketball game, Saturday, Jan. 21, 2017, in Cleveland.

points to lead the Clippers. Austin Rivers added 16 points and DeAndre Jordan had 13 rebounds to go with his 14 points.

Suns 107, Knicks 105

In New York, Devin Booker scored 26 points and made a go-ahead 3-pointer with 31 seconds left, and Phoenix beat New York.

Carmelo Anthony's attempt at a winning 3-pointer rimmed out as Phoenix snapped a two-game losing streak and handed New York its second loss in a row.

Eric Bledsoe added 23 points for the Suns, while P.J. Tucker and Marquese Chriss each had 15.

Anthony led the Knicks with 31 points, Derrick Rose had 26 and Kristaps Porzingis scored 14.

Heat 109, Bucks 97

In Miami, Dion Waiters tied a career high with 33 points and last-place Miami won a season-best third game in a row by beating slumping Milwaukee.

Bucks coach Jason Kidd shook up his lineup, but they lost their fifth game in a row and second in as many nights. Following a defeat Friday at Orlando, the Bucks held a long players-only meeting that became heated at times.

Waiters went 12 for 19, including 5 for 8 from 3-point range. Backcourt mate Goran Dragic added 25 points on only 13 shots. Hassan Whiteside had 16 points and 15 rebounds while missing one shot.

The Heat shot 53 percent, just shy of their season high. The win streak is their longest since last March.

All-Star starter Giannis Antetokounmpo had 24 points and 10 rebounds for Milwaukee.

Jazz 109, Pacers 100

In Salt Lake City, George Hill scored a season-high 30 points and the Utah Jazz led wire-to-wire in a win over the Indiana Pacers.

The Jazz relied on the Indiana born-and-bred duo of Hill and Gordon Hayward to defeat their hometown team.

The game marked the first time Hill had played the Pacers since being traded from Indiana to Utah over the summer. The three-team deal with the Hawks sent Jeff Teague, who scored 19, from Atlanta to Indiana.

Hill was aggressive from

the onset and peppered his former team with a variety of dribble-drives, pull-ups and three 3-pointers. Hayward dropped an efficient 27 on 8 for 13 shooting from the field.

Paul George scored 19 for the Pacers before getting ejected with 6:41 left in the game.

Pistons 113, Wizards 112

In Auburn Hills, Michigan, Marcus Morris scored 25 points and tipped in the winning basket at the buzzer, leading the Detroit Pistons over Washington for their third straight win.

Reggie Jackson had 19 points and eight assists, while Tobias Harris added 18 points and nine rebounds for the Pistons, who let a 16-point lead slip away in the fourth quarter before Morris' big bucket.

John Wall finished with 19 points, 10 assists and seven rebounds, and Markieff Morris added 19 points and nine rebounds for Washington, which had its four-game win streak snapped.

The Wizards took a 112-111 lead on Bradley Beal's two free throws with 1:13 left. Detroit had numerous chances to win on its final possession before Marcus Morris tipped in Harris' missed runner with no time left.

Hornets 112, Nets 105

In Charlotte, North Carolina, Michael Kidd-Gilchrist had 17 points and 14 rebounds, Nic Batum made two clutch 3-pointers in the fourth quarter and the Charlotte Hornets defeated the Brooklyn Nets for their third straight win.

Ramon Sessions added 17 points off the bench for the Hornets, who have won nine of their last 10 at home.

Brook Lopez had 24 points for the struggling Nets, who have lost 12 of their last 13 and failed in their quest to become the last NBA team to reach double digits in wins this season.

Hawks 110, 76ers 93

In Atlanta, Paul Millsap scored 22 points and combined with Dwight Howard to help Atlanta dominate the boards as the Hawks beat the Philadelphia 76ers for their ninth win in 11 games.

Millsap grabbed 10 rebounds, and Howard had 13 points and grabbed 15 rebounds for Atlanta, which broke loose for 37 points in the second quarter and neither trailed nor were tied in the second half.

Ersan Ilyasova led the 76ers with 21 points, and Robert Covington scored 15 points with 10 rebounds for the 76ers, who lost for just the third time in 11 games.

Spurs coach Popovich blasts President Trump

CLEVELAND (AP)—Gregg Popovich would bench President Trump.

San Antonio's long-time coach, who has been highly critical of Donald Trump in the past, went on a lengthy rant about the newly sworn-in president on Saturday night, calling him a bully and saying he hopes he can change while in office.

While meeting with reporters before the Spurs played the NBA champion Cavaliers, Popovich didn't hold back in offering his disdain for Trump and members of his administration.

Popovich was initially asked about his views on the women's marches in Washington and around the world before he unloaded on Trump.

"Their message is obvious," the five-time champion coach said of the protesters. "Our president comes in with the lowest (approval) rating of anybody whoever came

into the office. And there's a majority of people out there, since Hillary (Clinton) won the popular vote, that don't buy his act. And I just wish that he was more—had the ability to be more—mature enough to do something that really is inclusive rather than just talking and saying, 'I'm going to include everybody.'

"He could talk to the groups that he disrespected and maligned during the primary and really make somebody believe it. But so far, we've got (to) a point where you really can't believe anything that comes out of his mouth. You really can't."

As he said following Trump's election in November, Popovich wants Trump to succeed but believes he will only do so if he changes.

Popovich pointed out that Trump visited CIA headquarters on his first official day in office, but used the occasion

to talk about himself.

"Instead of honoring the 117 people behind him where he was speaking, he talked about the size of the crowd," Popovich said. "That's worrisome. I'd just feel better if somebody was in that position that showed the maturity and psychological and emotional level of somebody that was his age. It's dangerous and it doesn't do us any good. I hope he does a great job, but there's a difference between respecting the office of the presidency and who occupies it."

"And that respect has to be earned."

Popovich was also critical of those who don't hold Trump accountable for his words.

"It's hard to be respectful of someone when we all have kids and we're watching him be misogynistic and xenophobic and racist and make fun of handicapped people. And what really bothers me

are the people around him: The Sean Spicers, the Kellianne Conways, the Reince Priebuses that know who he is and actually have the cynical approach and disingenuous attitude to really defend him and try to make it look like he didn't say what he said."

"And so when he's mad at the media for them reporting what he said, that just boggles my mind."

Popovich said others would have punished for some of the things Trump has said in the past, including when he made fun of a handicapped reporter.

"If our children would've said it, we would have grounded him for six months," he said. "Without a doubt. But we ignore all that because, because why? That says something about all of us and that's what's dangerous, or that's what scares the hell out of me to this day. It makes me uneasy."

Durability of NFL's final 4 QBs vital to Super Bowl run



PITTSBURGH (AP)—The numbers are staggering. Over 182,000 yards passing (more than 103 miles worth), nearly 1,300 touchdowns and seven championships, with an eighth guaranteed for whoever parties in the confetti in Houston next month.

Yet the numbers that might define Tom Brady, Ben Roethlisberger, Aaron Rodgers and Matt Ryan as much as any other on their eye-popping, fantasy football league-winning stat lines might 39, 34, 33 and 31—the ages of the quarterbacks in the NFL's version of the Final Four.

Sunday marks just the third time in the Super Bowl era that all four players taking the snap will be closer to their 40s than their teens. In a sport where the concept of longevity in its marquee position is fickle at best (see Cleveland Browns), the durability of the men that serve as the centerpieces for their team's title hopes is remarkable.

The 31-year-old Ryan has missed just two starts in his nine seasons, the 33-year-old Rodgers nine since taking over for Brett Favre in 2008. The 34-year-old Roethlisberger is throwing more—and getting hit less—than he did a decade ago. The 39-year-old Brady hasn't sat because of injury since Barack Obama was president-elect, not a former president, and has shown no sign of slowing down even as the start of his fifth decade approaches.

Trying to find a common thread for their longevity is difficult, though being supremely talented while playing on good teams behind offensive lines that range from improving (Green Bay) to perhaps the best in the league (Pittsburgh) certainly helps. Atlanta Falcons offensive coordinator Kyle Shanahan—who counts Robert Griffin III among his former pupils—points out something else at play. All four are throwbacks in a way compared with their younger and more mobile contemporaries. In a way, being “slow” compared with the Griffins and Cam Newtons of the world may actually be a good thing.

“None of them were running the zone read or winning any Heisman (trophies) based off their legs and stuff,” Shanahan said. “Pretty much since Pop Warner, they’ve been learning how to stay in that pocket and how to play the position.”

For proof look no further than Rodgers dancing in a sea of New York Giants before throwing a touchdown pass in Green Bay's wild-card victory



New England Patriots quarterback Tom Brady listens during a news conference before an NFL football team practice, Wednesday, Jan. 18, 2017, in Foxborough, Mass. AP

as Denver sent the 39-year-old into retirement with Vince Lombardi Trophy in hand. Save for a late mini renaissance in 2009 in Minnesota, Favre's nomadic final seasons were more “meh” than marvelous as he bounced from job to job.

Not Brady, who hasn't ruled out playing until he's closing in on AARP membership. Hard to blame him after he threw just two interceptions and was sacked just 15 times in 12 games, avoiding the “kill shots” that can end even the careers of the greats (google “Steve Young,” “concussion” and “Cardinals” if you need a refresher).

“I think his mind prepares him more than anything,” Steelers defensive end Cam Heyward said. “He knows where he wants to go with the ball. He doesn't miss a detail.”

Yet taking an almost monastic approach to the job has always been The Brady Way.

Not so much Roethlisberger, who may be the one in the group who has undergone the biggest transformation. As Heyward put it, “he used to play a lot more backyard football.” Not anymore.

The “Ben being Ben” days when he would keep his eyes downfield even as he fended off two or three tacklers are largely gone. Offensive coordinator Todd Haley's system requires Roethlisberger to make a read at the line of scrimmage and get rid of it. Roethlisberger is throwing the ball more—and getting hit less—as a result. He's taken a sack once every 19.4 attempts since Haley came on in 2012, compared with once every 11.6 attempts from 2007-11. Oh, and he dropped 15-20 pounds in the offseason to help him keep up with his three kids and stay ahead of defenses designed to stop him.

It's an evolution that likely has extended Roethlisberger's prime. He's signed through 2020, when he'll be 38. There is no talk of his window closing, or that of any of the three other guys who will be under center on Sunday. The way they're playing and the way the league is trying to protect quarterbacks (albeit with mixed results), why retire?

“They just find ways to stay on the field,” Pittsburgh offensive guard Foster said. “Franchises rely on that.”

Super Bowl winners, too.

two weeks ago.

“His feel for the rush is second to none,” Green Bay offensive lineman T.J. Lang said. “He feels it coming. Even when he doesn't see it, he knows he's got a guy coming free off the left, he's going to make a move to miss and get outside and make a big play.”

There's something to be said for learning how to take a hit, too. While Rodgers' ridiculous pass to Jared Cook that set up the game-winning field goal against the Cowboys last

Sunday will live on in playoff lore, it obscures what happened two snaps prior, when Rodgers somehow held onto the ball despite taking a massive blindside hit from Dallas safety Jeff Heath. Add it to the ever growing stable of signature plays by Rodgers.

Ryan's ability has largely flown under the radar as the Falcons morphed from contenders to rebuilding and back again. While many of the faces in the huddle have changed, his has not. Ryan was an apprentice of sorts to Tony Gon-

zalez, the most productive tight end in league history, who took a near fanatical approach to his diet and training regimen.

“He was really over the top about it, too,” said Ryan, whose 117.1 rating this season led the league. “He really stuck to it and was kind of insane about his preparation, how he got ready and what he did. I always feel like that struck me as, ‘Man, I've got to find that right mix for me.’”

Roethlisberger joked this week that the media's focus

on the showdown between himself and Brady when the Steelers visit the Patriots can largely be attributed the future Hall of Famers being “two old guys.”

There's some truth in that but something deeper, too. Brady is playing as well as he ever has—his 112.2 quarterback rating is second only to the 117.2 he posted during New England's unbeaten regular season in 2007. Compare that with Peyton Manning, who was more caretaker than difference-maker last winter

Colts fire general manager Ryan Grigson after 5 seasons

INDIANAPOLIS (AP)—Ryan Grigson spent everything he could to bring another Super Bowl title to Indianapolis.

He paid a heavy price for coming up short.

On Saturday, Colts owner Jim Irsay fired his general manager after five up-and-down years that ended with Indy missing the playoffs in consecutive seasons for the first time since 1997-98.

“We are in the business of professional football and that is the business of winning,” Irsay said during a 20-minute news conference at the team headquarters. “It's about winning and you do everything you can to make sure you are in the position to win, period.”

After almost three weeks of silence from the Colts, the assumption was that Irsay would again surprise Colts' fans by keeping Grigson and coach Chuck Pagano for another season.

Instead, Irsay took time to analyze his own franchise and sought advice from outsiders such as former Super Bowl-winning coach and current ESPN commentator Jon Gruden. Eventually, he reached the same conclusion fans did weeks earlier - a change was needed.

So a little more than a year after announcing Grigson and Pagano had both received contract extensions through the 2019 season, Grigson is out.

As for Pagano, his immediate future is still with the Colts.

“He is our coach for 2017,” Irsay said. “The new general manager will come in, evaluate our whole football program and we will see where we are at. Again, I hope Chuck can be our coach for many years to come. He is our coach this year.”

Grigson's blunt personality didn't always mesh with Pagano.

Irsay even acknowledged last summer he asked the two men to resolve their differences before giving them new deals. On Saturday, Irsay said they got along better than the public believed and cited a statement issued later by Pagano as evidence.

“I'm grateful for the opportunity Ryan gave me,” Pagano said. “We shared many great memories, moments and victories together over the past five years.”

But others inside the building also didn't get along with Pagano, and it became abundantly clear as word leaked that Grigson was out.

“Thank God. ‘Unwarranted Arrogance’ just ran into a brick wall called karma,” Pro Bowl punter Pat McAfee posted on Twitter before Irsay made it official.

Former receiver Reggie Wayne wrote “Now we can play ball....!”

Former linebacker Jerrell

Freeman, who played for the Chicago Bears last season, chimed in with “Well that took longer than expected.”

Grigson also was reviled in New England because of his role in the Deflategate scandal.

It was Grigson who tipped off league officials that Tom Brady used improperly inflated footballs during the 2015 AFC championship game, a violation that eventually led to a four-game suspension for Brady as well as a fine and the loss draft picks for the Patriots.

Five years ago, all this seemed unfathomable.

Grigson looked like a genius after hitting it big with his first four draft picks—quarterback Andrew Luck, tight ends Coby Fleener and Dwayne Allen and receiver T.Y. Hilton—and used a series of shrewd, cost-effective moves to turn a 2-14 team into a playoff team. It went down as one of the greatest turnarounds in league history.

Teack noses out Manibusan in SGA Ace of Aces



Jung Eun Teack was named 2016 Saipan Golf Association

Ace of Aces after ruling the club championship held last Jan. 14 and 15 at the Kingfisher Golf Links.

Teack had a net score of 142 after the two-day tournament, just one stroke ahead of Attorney General Edward Manibusan's 143. The 2016 February Ace built enough cushion in the opening round to keep the lead and prevent Manibusan from stealing SGA Ace of Aces title.

A net 68 in the first round put Teack on top of the leaderboard. He was up by one stroke against Juan Lizama and Juan Pan Guerrero and had a four-shot advantage



JON PEREZ
Jung Eun Teack, fifth left first row, and other members of the Saipan Golfers Association pose before teeing off in one of the SGA monthly tournaments at the Laolao Bay Golf & Resort.

against Manibusan and Alex Tudela.

In the second round, Manibusan had the best net score with 71, but it was not enough

to overtake Teack, who was saved by his net 74 in the final day of the competition. Juan Lizama and Guerrero also faltered after struggling in the fi-

nal round with their net 80 and 81, respectively.

Lizama settled for fourth place after combining for a net 149 and beating Alex Tudela (72 and 77) in the scorecard tie-break, while Guerrero dropped to fifth place with his two-day net of 150. Guerrero also won a deadlock against Das Krishnan, who fired a 73 and 77 in

the first and second round.

Meanwhile, Manibusan won the closest to the pin contest in hole No. 15 on both days. Joe Demapan, James Nelson, and Jess Castro had the same feats in No. 6, No. 8, and No. 12 in the first round, while Kautz and Nick Sablan were the closest to the pin winners in No. 6 and 8, re-

spectively, in the last day of the tournament.

Kautz also had the longest drive on No. 11 on Day 1, while John Cruz was the winner in No. 7. On Day 2, Greg Sablan Jr. made the longest drive in No. 1, while Larry Deleon Guerrero did the same in No. 14.

The second and final day of the club championship served as the January Ace tournament, too, with Frances Sablan getting the first monthly crown after posting a net score of 70. The 28-handicapper shot a 51 and 47 on the front and back nines for a gross 98. Manibusan was again the runner-up with his net 71 (76 gross and 5 handicap), beating Juan L. Babauta in the tie-break. *(Roselyn B. Monroyo)*

No. 1 Murray loses to Zverev in 4th round of Australian Open



M E L - BOURNE, Australia (AP)—Andy Murray won't be breaking

his Australian Open title drought this year after a stunning fourth-round loss to 50th-ranked Mischa Zverev.

The five-time Australian Open finalist was unsettled by the left-handed serve and volleyer in a 7-5, 5-7, 6-2, 6-4 upset loss Sunday that seriously changes the tournament landscape in the second week.

Murray's exit follows the second-round departure of six-time defending champion Novak Djokovic, beaten in the second round by wild-card entry Denis Istomin.

That makes it the first time since 2002 that the top two seeds haven't reached the Australian Open quarterfinals, and the first time at a Grand Slam since the French Open in 2004.

"Right now I'm down," Murray said. "But I've had

tough losses before and come back from them."

The absence of Djokovic and Murray from the quarterfinals opens up opportunities.

Zverev will play a quarterfinal against the winner of Sunday's later match between 17-time major winner Roger Federer, who is returning from injury, and No. 5 Kei Nishikori, who reached the U.S. Open final in 2014 but has never won a slam.

U.S. Open champion Stan Wawrinka, who had his major breakthrough here in 2014, is a growing contender after beating Andreas Seppi 7-6 (2), 7-6 (4), 7-6 (4). He'll play a quarterfinal against either 2008 Australian Open finalist Jo-Wilfried Tsonga or Dan Evans.

On the other half of the draw, Rafael Nadal is the only man still in contention who has won a Grand Slam title. The 30-year-old Spaniard has 14—but none since the 2014 French Open.

Zverev attacked Murray, unsettling his natural base-

line game, and won 65 of 118 points at the net.

The 29-year-old German made some stunning, lunging volleys on clutch points, but for him it was all a blur.

"Honestly, I don't know, it was like I was in a little coma, I just served and volleyed my way through," Zverev said. "Honestly there were a few points where I don't know how I pulled it off."

Murray got the closest look at Zverev's best match to date, and couldn't do a lot to counter it.

"It's the shots he was coming up with when he did come forward," Murray said. "I mean, he came up with some great pickups, you know, reflex volleys especially at the end of the match when it was tight."

"He served very well when he needed to, especially when he was behind in games. Yeah, he deserved to win because, you know, he played great when he was down, and also in the important moments."

Compound match for the last finals ticket. Duenas Compound and Ace Hardware had their make-or-break game last Saturday and results will be reported in *Saipan Tribune's* Tuesday edition.

Meanwhile, Saipan Apparel, with its undefeated record in the playoffs, will have a twice-to-beat advantage in the finals. Game 1 will be played on Jan. 26, while Game 2, if necessary, is set for Jan. 27.

Saipan Apparel 88 – Fitial 20, Lisua 18, E. Diaz 12, Andrew 12, Teregeyo 8, Norita 5, Lizama 8, Rangamar 3, J. Diaz 2.

Ol'Aces 83 – Pelisamen 20, Barcinas 6, Lizama 12, Santos 6, Iguel 6, Deleon Guerrero 5, Moses 5, Palino 4.

Scoring by quarters: 16-21, 35-42, 59-67, 88-83.

SAIPAN

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Barcinas steal from Derrick Rangamar moved the Ol'Aces within a deuce.

However, Saipan Apparel increased the lead to 4 points when Diaz made up for his missed fastbreak layup when he got the rebound and fed Andrew for the point-blank shot.

A split free throw from Lizama cut the deficit to 3 and the Ol'Aces had a chance to move closer when Jerome Norita also nailed only one free throw on the other end. However, Barcinas muffed his triple, while another split charity (Rangamar) gave Saipan Apparel more cushion, down to the last 10.8 seconds in the match.

The Ol'Aces sued for time, hoping to set up for a quick

basket, but faltered when Freddie Pelisamen was pressured after he received the inbound pass. Pelisamen eventually lost possession and Saipan Apparel picked up the loose ball to seal the win.

Four Saipan Apparel players scored in double figures to beat the Ol'Aces. Kelvin Fitial had 20 points, while Lisua finished with 18, and Diaz and Andrew contributed 12 each.

Pelisamen top-scored for the Ol'Aces with his 20 markers, but was held to one field goal in the fourth quarter. The Ol'Aces played without Preston Basa, who sustained a hamstring injury during practice.

Despite the loss, the Ol'Aces still have a chance to march into the finals. The Ol'Aces will face tomorrow the winner in the Ace Hardware-Duenas

LEE

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shuk of the U.S. The No. 9 seed eliminated Price with a semis win 7-6 (5-3), 6-3, and avoided the upset axe of the unranked Anastasia Berezov of Australia in the finals, 6-0, 6-4.

In the doubles, Lee had a familiar foe in Price, who teamed up with Nina Paripovich to win in the semifinals against the CNMI player and Fiji's Mulan Kamoe. The Pacific Oceania Touring Team pair dropped the opening set, 2-6, but remained in contention after bouncing back in the second, 6-3. In the deciding super-tiebreaker third set, the No. 2 seed Kiwis recovered their bearings and ended Lee and Kamoe's streak, 10-6, to make it to the finals.

Paripovich and Price eventually claimed the doubles

championship after another tough win against the top-ranked pair of Grishuk and New Zealand's Holly Stewart. Paripovich and Price prevailed in the first set, 6-4, but missed the straight set victory when Grishuk and Stewart took the second, 6-3. However, the second-ranked duo won't be denied as it battled back in the deciding set and pulled off a 10-4 win.

Meanwhile, from Christchurch, Lee went to Wellington to compete in the 2017 Tecnifibre Tennis Central Championships

The tournament in Wellington, which will start today and run until Saturday at the Renouf Tennis Centre, is another Grade 4 event that awards ITF Juniors ranking points to players who will at least make it to the Round of 16.

The world juniors No. 404 Lee is in the main draw of

SSC

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Day 1 of the competition on March 23—the 200m breast for 11 and over swimmers and 200m fly for all ages.

For Day 2, races will be divided into two sessions. The morning events include 200m backstroke (over 11), 100m free, 50m backstroke, 100m butterfly, 200m mixed medley relay, and 200m freestyle for all ages and 800m free for over 11 (at least holds an A qualifying time in the 200m freestyle). In the afternoon, swimmers will race in the 200m medley relay, 100m breaststroke, 50m butterfly, 50m breaststroke, and 200m freestyle for all ages, 400m free for over 11, and 400m IM for over 13.

In the final day of the swim

meet, SSC has lined up five events for all ages—200m IM, 100m backstroke, 50m freestyle, 4x100m freestyle relay, and 4x50m mixed relay.

Each swimmer will get points based on how they finish in the individual events. No points will be given in the relays and the Top 3 finishes in each age group will get high point trophies.

Meanwhile, nearly 60 swimmers from SSC, Tsunami Saipan, and Dolphin Club participated in last weekend's SSC Double Distance Meet. Members of the three swim groups joined all freestyle races—100m, 1,500m, 400m, 800m, 200m, and 100m relay. Results were unavailable at press time and will be reported once organizers released the official times.

TRIBUNE SPORTS SCORES

NBA STANDINGS

EASTERN CONFERENCE Atlantic Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Toronto	28	15	.651	—
Boston	26	17	.605	2
New York	19	26	.422	10
Philadelphia	15	27	.357	12 1/2
Brooklyn	9	34	.209	19

Southeast Division

Atlanta	26	18	.591	—
Washington	23	20	.535	2 1/2
Charlotte	23	21	.523	3
Orlando	18	27	.400	8 1/2
Miami	14	30	.318	12

Central Division

Cleveland	30	12	.714	—
Indiana	22	21	.512	8 1/2
Chicago	22	23	.489	9 1/2
Detroit	21	24	.467	10 1/2
Milwaukee	20	23	.465	10 1/2

WESTERN CONFERENCE Southwest Division

San Antonio	34	9	.791	—
Houston	34	13	.723	2
Memphis	26	20	.565	9 1/2
New Orleans	17	27	.386	17 1/2
Dallas	14	29	.326	20

Northwest Division

Utah	29	16	.644	—
Oklahoma City	25	19	.568	3 1/2
Denver	18	24	.429	9 1/2
Portland	19	27	.413	10 1/2
Minnesota	15	28	.349	13

Pacific Division

Golden State	37	6	.860	—
L.A. Clippers	29	16	.644	9
Sacramento	16	27	.372	21
L.A. Lakers	16	31	.340	23
Phoenix	14	29	.326	23

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

2016 SEDA Winter/Spring Season awarding

PHOTOS By JON PEREZ and MACKENZIE PEREZ



Saipan Electronic Darts Association league secretary Warlee Ellama, right, presents a plaque of appreciation to 6JMS owner George Medina in yesterday's awards ceremony of the 2016 Winter/Spring season at the Pacific Island Club's Charley's Cabaret.



Hi-In Division winners Giovanni Mira (C 170), Sim "One Dart" Iramk (Thursday Flame Tree 160), Byron "Sweets" Kaneshi (Thursday Fanihi 160), Ronald Rojas (Tuesday B 160), Alfred "Da Man" Manglona (A 152), and Omar "Lover Boy Quindoza (Master 170).



Fanihi B Division Sportsmanship award recipient 6JMS 80 Proofers.

Masters Division Sportsmanship award recipient 6JMS Calamity Fund. In photo are team captain Roy Tereyama, Renato "Krusty" Barros, Alfred "Da Man" Manglona, and Zaldy Zorro Quebral.

The Oleai Shockers earned the Sportsmanship Award in the A Division.



6JMS Himawari receives the Tuesday B Division award.



MARPAC Jarvin Mendiola, left, receives a plaque from SEDA league secretary Warlee Ellama.



Top Gun Division top performers Swiper Ongiil (C 40.72), Joey "Bazooka Joe" Songsong (Thursday Flame Tree 50.85), Dhan "Smurf" Mateo (Thursday Fanihi 54.91), Jose Orosco (Tuesday B 54.53), Gilbert "Hitman Gatmaitan (A 67.56), and Jayson "The Fire" John (Master 69.00)

Leonard scores
41, Spurs down
Cavaliers 118-
115 in OT

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Saipan Tribune Sports



Durability of
NFL's final 4
QB's vital to
Super Bowl run

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SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Saipan Apparel enters finals

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Saipan Apparel took the first finals seat in the Mariana Islands Basketball Federation's Inaugural Men's Outdoor League after rallying past the Ol'Aces, 88-83, last Thursday at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

Saipan Apparel overhauled a double-digit deficit early in the fourth quarter and then played steady in the homestretch when it was the Ol'Aces' time to launch a comeback to prevail in the winner's bracket semifinals

and advance to the championship round.

The Ol'Aces led by 10, 71-61, after Andrew Palino knocked in a pair of free throws, with still 8:34 left in the game. A 14-1 run headed by Ben



Lisua wiped out the Ol'Aces' advantage, 75-72. Lisua scored 7 points in that rally and 9 straight counting his earlier basket, while Syl Teregeyo's basket plus a foul put Saipan Apparel on top, 73-72. Dennis Moses made the lone point for the Ol'Aces, while after Teregeyo missed his bonus free throw, Joshua Andrew got the rebound for the putback, giving Saipan Apparel a 3-point cushion.

Five consecutive points from Ed Diaz off a layup and a triple in the ensuing plays gave Saipan Apparel its biggest lead, 81-75, and put pressure on the Ol'Aces, who tried to mount their own comeback, but fell short in the end.

The Ol'Aces managed to bring the lead down to 2, 82-84, with 50.4 seconds left as after Saipan Apparel drilled another triple off Ben Lisua's corner shot for a shot, the former made a couple of defensive stops and got successive baskets from Jack Lizama. Lizama's layup off a Dan

See SAIPAN on Page 26



ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Saipan Apparel's Ben Lisua, right, goes up for an acrobatic shot against the Ol'Aces' Jack Lizama during the fourth quarter of their playoff game in the MIBF outdoor caging last Thursday at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.



ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Carol Lee, seen here competing in the 2016 Northern Marianas Juniors Championships at the Pacific Islands Club, gained ranking points in her first tournament in New Zealand this year.

Lee settles for 30 ranking points

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

The CNMI's Carol Lee gained 30 ranking points at the conclusion of the Wilson Tennis Canterbury ITF at the Z Energy Wilding Park in Christchurch, New Zealand last Saturday.

Lee won 15 ranking points each in the singles and doubles after losing her quarterfinals and semis matches in the Grade 4 tour-

nament.

In the singles, the No. 2 seed Lee bowed to No. 6 and New Zealand's Emilia Price in an extended quarterfinal game. The Commonwealth player took the first set, 7-5, but Price managed to steal the win after sweeping the last two, 6-3, 6-3. Price went on to lose to eventual champion Skyler Marie Grace Gri-

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SSC int'l meet moved to March 23-26

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REPORTER

The dates of the Saipan Swim Club International Meet and

38th Saipan Ocean Swim have been changed to March 23 to 25 and March 26, according to SSC head coach Jacoby Winkfield.



Winkfield, in a brief interview with *Saipan Tribune* last Saturday during the SSC Double Distance Meet at the Kan Pacific Swimming Pool, said changes were made as another international event (Ironman 70.3 Saipan) will be held on March 18. The club's two competitions were originally set to run from March 16 to 19.

Winkfield added that invitations have already been sent

out to various off-island clubs and Tsunami Swimming Center Saipan and Dolphin Club. They have until March 15 to confirm their participation.

"The invites were sent to Palau, Marshall Islands, Pohnpei, and Guam. We also invited clubs from Japan and the Philippines. Hopefully, both or either one of them could come," the SSC head coach added.

The swim meet will start with the 1,500m freestyle event for swimmers in the over 11 age group and those who meet at least the A qualifying time in 200m freestyle. Two more events are set for

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Julia Jinang swims in the 100m freestyle race during the SSC Double Distance Meet held last Saturday at the Kan Pacific Swimming Pool.

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